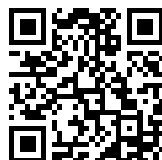

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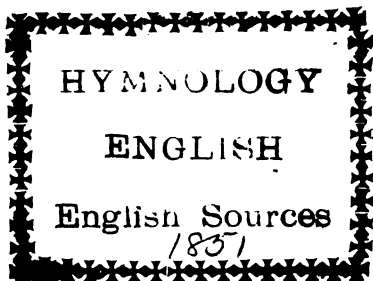
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FASTI CHRISTIANI.

FASTI CHRISTIANI ;

OR,

RHYMES ON THE KALENDAR.

In Six Books.

BY

W. C. AUGUSTINE MACLAURIN, M.A..

(LATE DEAN OF MORAY AND ROSS,)

NOW A MEMBER OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

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***** As the Work now presented to the Public was composed before the Author was in communion with the Catholic Church, there are some things in it which would have been slightly different if they had been written after his reception. He is not aware that it contains any thing at all inconsistent with Catholic Faith or Manners ; but, if he is mistaken, he humbly submits to correction.**

Notice.

The Plan of this Work is as follows :—

1. Four Elegiac Stanzas, or Sixteen Lines, are allotted, on the average, to each day.

2. The Privileged Moveable Solemnities are introduced in their *middle* places ; that is, as they occur when Easter falls on the *Eighth of April*.

3. A running margin accompanies the work ; mentioning the saint or mystery of each day, and generally the period of the saint's decease.

4. The *earlier* saints, *cæteris paribus*, are preferred to others of the same day's celebration ; except where the English Kalendar has retained a more modern Name.

5. Foot-notes are given when they seemed requisite.

6. The author has been very greatly indebted to "Butler's Lives of the Saints," the very words of which work are sometimes versified in the present.

7. The Prayers of readers are requested that God may bless this attempt to familiarly set forth, before modern Christians, the path of the Cross as trodden by the Saints ; and that He would open men's eyes to that shocking and fatal delusion which so generally prevails among us ; viz., that His Son has opened the kingdom of heaven on the easy condition of a worldly and self-indulgent life, cloakt over with the pretence of what is now called faith, but would not have received that name from the apostles and their early followers.

RHYMES ON THE KALENDAR.

BOOK I.—NOVEMBER.

NOVEMBER
29.
Vigil.

“WATCH !” said our watchful Shepherd, who ne’er sleeps
Nor slumbers, but afar from heav’nly throne
Looking intent His favor’d Isr’el keeps :
To His Apostles first that warning tone

Jesus addrest ; but, lest His sheep should deem 5
That pastors only must obey the call,
And others might the while securely dream,
Adds, “ What I say to you I say to all.”

’Tis fitting, then, with vigil to begin
His Church’s holy year : earth’s waning day 10
The slanting shades suggest : the sleep of sin
Steals o’er the heart, nor can we constant pray

Unless the holy breath from watchful souls
Rise, like the morning vapour from the earth
When heav’n’s high lantern up the welkin rolls. 15
Cheer’d be our sadness, then, and calm our mirth.

B

30.
ANDREW,
Apostle.

St. Andrew, earliest call'd of sacred band,
Brought to the Saviour him who, named the Rock,
First of the Church in dignity should stand,
And safely guide her 'mid each violent shock. 20

My heathen master* makes Ulysses say
That he Achilles' merits too might claim,
Whom th' Ithacan dislodged from idle stay
With Lycomede beneath disguise of dame.

Thus we St. Peter to St. Andrew owe, 25
Who found him, and to Jesus straight did bring ;
Nor only this, but half confession too
He made,—not yet God's Son, but " Christ, a king."

But soon the saint advanced from grace to grace ;
Till last, exulting at his cross's sight, 30
" Hail precious tree," he cried, " which dearest place
Hast in my heart ! O take me to my Light,

" My Love, who bought me on thee, and through thee
My soul receives."

DECEMBER
1.
ELIGIUS, or
ELOR, Bishop;
about 660.

Eligius, who begins
December's list, in gold and jewel'ry 35
A worker was, but not to pride and sins

Made his trade minister : he precious shrines
For the saints' relics framed : him King Clotaire,
The second of the name, a place assigns
As master of his mint : a courtier fair 40

* Ovid, author of the *Fasti*, in his *Metamorphoses* : book xiii.
165,—171.

DECEMBER. He might thro' life have shone, but soon prefer'd
 The ways of God, and holy orders took,
 And reacht th' episcopate. The vulgar herd
 Of idol-worshippers, whose furious look

And threat'ning speeches bade the prelate hope 45
 For speedy martyrdom, were quite subdued
 By th' holy man's meek virtues, nor could cope
 With Christ's own pow'r, with which His saints endued

Fight for Him 'gainst the world.

2.
 BIBIANA,
 Virgin-Martyr;
 363.

The pagan page
 Of Ammianus Marcellinus shows 50
 That in the middle of the fourth great age
 From Christ th' apostate Julian—(who arose

And was upheld, like Pharaoh, to declare
 God's power)—Apronianus ruler made
 Of Rome ; who, on his way to that most fair 55
 And tow'ring city, of one eye decay'd

The virtue lost : straight the magicians he
 Charged with the fault, and most Christ's faithful ones,
 Whose miracles, in vast variety
 Display'd before the heathen's graceless sons, 60

Suspect of magic made them. Th' holy maid
 Bibiana, after friends and parents seen
 Suff'ring for this, was to a post convey'd
 And there with scourges whipt, till torture keen

DECEMBER. And loss of blood swept her pure life away.— 65

3.
Advent-Sunday. *Almighty God, give grace that we may cast
The works of darkness from us, and array
Our souls in light's attire ; that in the last

And greatest day, " for which all days were made,"
When He who humbly came shall come again 70
In glorious majesty, the quick and dead
To judge at His tribunal, we may then

F. XAVIER,
Ap. of the Indies ;
1552.
BIRINUS,
1st Bishop of
Dorchester ;
650.
LUCIUS, King of
the Britons ;
2nd Cent.

Rise to the life immortal.—Then shall bring
Xavier his myriads, and his thousand souls
Birinus ; nor shall th' early British king, 75
Lucius, be absent, whom with zeal extols

Th' historic page, for that he meek resign'd
His kingdom, among men Christ's truth to preach,
And died a martyr.

4.
CLEMENT of
Alexandria ;
3rd Cent.

With unsated mind
Did Clement thirst for knowledge, nor could reach, 80

'Mid all the change of philosophic rule,
Full satisfaction : to Pantæus last
He came, who then the catechetic school
At Alexandria taught : with him the taste

Of Christian lore he found, and in his place 85
Soon sat, and Origen and others saw
At his feet learning ; while the sage would trace
Whate'er was good in heathen works, and draw

* I have versified our Advent-Collects, and introduced them as
the best tribute to that holy season.

DECEMBER. By sweet degrees to Christ's own glorious light.
 St. Clement's praise is in his writings seen ; 90
 The Stromata, with varied beauty bright
 Hanging like tap'stry for some gorgeous screen ;

The Pedagogue, or True Instructor, too ;
 Which thus sets forth our Teacher's yoke divine,
 And brings us, as His children, to subdue 95
 The love of ease, and conquer ev'ry sin.

5.
 CRISPINA,
 Martyr;
 304.
 Of lofty birth, with large possessions graced,
 And blest with children's love, Crispina yet
 With man-like courage earth from heav'n displaced
 In her affections, and at nought did set 100

Her home's sweet ties, and Christ with joy confest
 Before the world and on a scaffold's height.
 When by the heathen magistracy prest
 To sacrifice, nor th' emp'ror's edicts slight,

" I never," said she, " sacrifice have paid 105
 But to one God, the Father of our Lord
 Who came and suffer'd for us." " Be afraid,"
 Then the proconsul said, " of rigors stored

For disobedience, and some token show
 Of piety." But she his threatnings scorn'd, 110
 And moved him to expose her shav'n, the low
 And fickle populace to please : adorn'd

DECEMBER. She thought herself with glory, more than e'er
 Had compass her before when in the pride
 Of beauty she had moved with flowing hair. 115
 Next th' head itself was ta'en, and so she died.

6.
 NICHOLAS,
 Abp. of Myra;
 342.

For charity, in comforting distress
 And needy Christians, Nicholas was famed,
 For whom throughout the wide unchanging East
 An honor next th' Apostles' still is claim'd. 120

Patron of children has he long been deem'd
 Because from infancy a model he
 Of innocence and virtue was esteem'd,
 And still retain'd their fond simplicity

In graver years. With high and solemn state 125
 This day of old was kept in Eton's bow'rs,
 Nor less with "awful mirth's" observance great
 Did Sarum's youthful choir welcome its hours.

7.
 FARA, Virgin
 641.

Fara, when young, was by Columban's hand
 To God devoted, and the pledge preserved 130
 Inviolatè; nor could th' united band
 Of earth's inducements make the virgin swerve

From her blest purpose: to the dignity
 Advanced of abbess, she her holy fame
 So wide extended that the sev'ring sea 135
 Was crost by many a maid of royal name

DECEMBER. From Albion's shore, who trod the purple's glare
 'Neath their heart's feet, and better loved the dress
 Of poverty, the cloister's humble fare
 And guise preferring in their lowliness. 140

8.
 Conception of
 E.V.M. As when a "gem of purest ray serene,"
 And price inestimable, is to be
 Stored in a casket, all exact and clean
 Must be the receptacle ; so when He,

Th' eternal Word, thro' ages all decreed 145
 To be our Saviour, was in maiden's womb
 To place His tabernacle, there was need
 The grace divine should ev'ry spot consume

Of human foulness, and a seat prepare
 Worthy to be a chamber whence that Sun 150
 Of Righteousness should come as bridegroom fair,
 Rejoicing as a giant strong to run

His course of love ;—and hence the Church doth hold
 (Tho' not like faith's unchanging lesson set,) 155
 That Mary, while her line was still unroll'd
 From Joachim and Anna, and ere yet

The light she saw, was in conception made
 Pure from the blot of sin original ;
 Thus "full of grace," of Eden's fragrant shade
 "Lily" unspotted, cleansed from stain of fall. 160

DECEMBER.
9.
Seven Martyrs of
Samosata ;
297.

Samosata, by Scoffer's * birth disgraced !
Full soon amends thou madest in the sev'n
All-glorious martyrs whom the Church hath placed
On this day's roll as citizens of heav'n.

Return'd victorious from the the Persian strife, 165
Maximian bade th' inhabitants repair
To Fortune's temple, for the emp'ror's life
Give thanks and pray, and off'rings rich and fair

Make to the gods. Two of this martyr-band,
Already Christian, in their secret house 170
The cross adored : the other five at hand
Found them, and were converted, and the vows

Of baptism took, and ate the holy food.
Then, ripe for torments, all were to the cross
Led ; and some linger'd on the tort'ring rood 175
And down were ta'en, and, fainting with the loss

10.
Second Sunday
in Advent

Of blood, yet further cruelties endured.—
Thou 'st caused all holy Scriptures, Lord most blest,
Be written for our learning : grace afford
To hear, read, mark, and inwardly digest 180

Their lessons ; that by patience 'mid our strife,
And Thy word's comfort, we may still embrace
And ever fast retain that hope of life
Eternal which is ours through Jesu's grace.

* Lucian.

DECEMBER. Such was the hope that amid torments dire 185
 EULALIA,
 Virgin Martyr;
 in Dioclesian's
 persecution. Gladden'd Eulalia, young and tender maid ;
 Who, when the bloody Dioclesian's ire
 Troubled the Church, not thirteen years had sped

On life's brief way : she to the judge complain'd
 Of souls destroy'd, whom th' emp'rour's edicts bade 190
 Renounce the Lord : then iron hooks were stain'd
 With blood which from her sides like fountain play'd,

And lighted torches to her breasts applied ;
 But she, instead of groans, with words of praise
 Welcom'd her Lord ; and soon the virgin died 195
 Stifled with smoke, and with the flame that plays

Around her face.

To such prosperity
 The Church soon rose, a pagan writer says
 11. The chariots, vesture, rich festivity,
 DAMASUS,
 Bishop of Rome ;
 384. Of Roman bishops rival'd in his days 200

The style, and pomp, and luxury, of kings,
 And so became ambition's tempting hope ;
 And ev'n the stern and saintly Jerom brings
 A senator confessing to the pope

We this day honor, " Make me what thou art, 205
 And I to-morrow will a Christian be."
 But Damasus himself was ne'er in heart
 O'ercome with worldly pride, or never he

DECEMBER. By the same Jerom would admired and praised
 Have been, or testimony high obtain'd 210
 From Austin and from Ambrose, or been raised
 To saintly honor by the unprofaned

And joining voice of th' holy men who sat
 In high Chalcedon's council.

When the rage
 Of Decius sought out victims for their fate 215
 In Alexandria, not one sex or age

12.
 EPIMACHUS,
 ALEXANDER,
 and four
 Female-Martyrs ;
 250.

Alone supplied them : virgins, mothers, men,
 Alike aspired to glorify in flame,
 'Neath axes, and the spur of torments keen, [220
 The Name they loved. The judge himself felt shame

At his defeat, and that no boasted pow'r
 Of heathen virtue could such strength express.
 But Christ His servants strengthens in the hour
 Of fiercest trials, and to holiness

Nerves all the soul ; as was in Lucy seen, 225
 Sicilian maid, of wealthy parents sprung,
 But from her cradle taught with mind serene
 To look on heav'n, and all beside as dung

13.
 LUCY,
 Virgin-Martyr ;
 304.

And dross t' account. The pagan youth, her hand
 Who sought in marriage, found that she had sold 230
 Her jewels and her goods,—money or land,—
 To bless the poor ; nor could on this withhold

DECEMBER His anger, but accused her as the faith
 Of Christ professing : Dioclesian's fires
 Then raged, and the true tongue of hist'ry saith 235
 That th' holy maiden, to most foul desires

Intended victim, was to be exposed
 In house of infamy ; but God, who spares
 His saints no torments dire, their crown proposed
 To brighten, for their precious virtue cares, 240

And rendered her immoveable by strength
 Of guards : to keenest suff'rings then was giv'n
 Her young and virgin body, till at length
 She left her prison for the courts of heav'n.

14.
 SPIRIDION,
 Bishop ;
 348.

Spiridion, 'mong the Greeks a saint of note, 245
 Was born in Cyprus, and a shepherd's life
 Profest and practised ; but by fervent vote
 Of poor and lowly people, who the strife

Of Christian warfare 'gainst the powers of hell
 Daily maintain'd, was to the bishop's seat 250
 Duly elected, and thenceforward well
 Both functions exercised : in Lent, to eat

Nothing for days together was his use ;
 But, when a weary trav'ller came to dine,
 The holy man full soon a kind excuse 255
 Found, and for him prepared the flesh of swine.

DECEMBER. "I am a Christian," said the guest.—"No meat
Is in itself unclean," the saint replied ;
"And therefore, when tired nature prompts to eat
Such food as this, her wants must be the guide." 260

15.
EUSEBIUS,
Bp. of Vercelli;
371.
Son of a father who in chains had died
For Christ, Eusebius by the strictest rule
Of piety and love was taught, and tried
By persecution, that completing school

Of heav'nly wisdom. Reader first ordained 265
By St. Sylvester, to Vercelli he
Was call'd, 'mid Piedmont's vallies, where he trained
A num'rous clergy, who in sanctity

Lived in one house with him, and then were sought
For other sees, so stedfast shone his light ! 270
By Arian violence 'twas much his lot
To suffer, and thus make his crown more bright.

16.
* *O Sapientia*.
O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High
Who camest, and from end to end dost reach,
And sweetly order'st all things ! COME, and Thy 275
Sad Church the way of understanding teach.

* The *great O Anthems*, repeated with the Magnificat on several days before Christmas-Eve, are begun, according to the Roman rite, on the 17th, but two days earlier according to that of Paris. In the ancient Church of England, before her tasteless and prosaic "Reformers" cut down so many of our liturgical beauties, these anthems were begun on the 16th ; which still has *O Sapientia*, the opening words of the first of them, opposite to it in the Kalendar. I have versified them all, and introduced them in order.

DECEMBER.

ADO,
Abp. of Vienna;
875.

Many have been her pastors, who from Thee
Have ta'en their lessons, to Thy hidden life
Trying to draw men's souls,—like Ado : he
Would still his exhortations to the strife 280

'Gainst sin thus preface : “Hear th' eternal Truth
Who in the gospel speaks.” But, Lord, Thou seest
How little yet is done ; from slipp'ry youth
To greedy age how hard our state, nor least

How bad examples lead us from the road, 285
The narrow road to life, and bring us down
Some devious track, but easy, smooth, and broad,
And thus we miss our bought and promised crown.

17.
O Adonai.

O Adonai, and leader of the house
Of Israel, who to Moses in a flame 290
Of fire in bush appear'dst, and his vows
Acceptedst, and to Him Thine awful name

Third Sunday
in Advent.

Revealedst, and on Sina gav'st the law !
COME to redeem us with an outstretched arm.
Lord Jesu Christ, who ere our fathers saw 295
Thy former coming didst their hearts alarm

By Baptist's preaching of repentance stern !
Grant that the stewards of Thy mysteries
May now the disobedient hearts so turn
To wisdom of the just that when we rise 300

DECEMBER. To judgment an accepted people we
 May in Thy sight be found. Then hidden things
 Of darkness shall be shown, and open be
 In light of day all hearts imaginings.

18.
O Radice. *O Root of Jesse*, for the people's sign 305
 Who standest, at whom kings their mouths shall shut,
 Whom nations shall entreat ! COME, and all Thine
 Soon gather and redeem : delay us not ;

But soon restore our saints as at the first,
 When blest Ignatius show'd the path to Thee, 310
 And Zozimus and Rufus were athirst
 To tread his steps, and happy partners be

ZOSIMUS and
 RUFUS, MM.;
 116.

In chains and martyrdom. 'Neath Trajan's reign
 They suffer'd, and St. Polycarp thus writes
 Of their renown : "They have not run a vain, 315
 But just and faithful, race, and Christ requites

" Them now with their due seat ; for they loved not
 The present world, but Him who died and rose."
 That we are not such children, this our blot
 And blemish is, and by-word of our foes.* 320

19.
Ollavis. *O Key of David*, Sceptre of the home
 Of Isr'el ; who dost open, and no men
 Can shut, dost shut and none can open ! COME,
 And loose the bound, that sit in death's dark den.

* See Deuteronomy xxxii. 5, marginal version, King James's Translation.

DECEMBER. Nemesion was Thy witness on this day ; 325

NEWESION, &c. Who falsely charged with theft, was easily cleared,
Martyrs ; But then as Christian suffer'd : a bright ray
250. Of fame is his ; for, his confession heard,

The judge bade scourge him doubly, and then burn
With malefactors : thus like Thee he died, 330
Number'd among transgressors. Others' turn
Came next ;—four soldiers, who for Thee were tried

And went with joyous looks to th' axe of death.
Dioscorus, a youth of mere fifteen,
Of bright and heav'nly beauty, longer breath 335
Obtain'd, while others died 'mid tortures keen.

20.
O Oriens.

O Rising Brightness of eternal light,
And Sun of Justice ! Mirror, without spot,
Of God's own glory, of His goodness bright 340
The Image ! COME our dismal guilt to blot,

And fit us for that place of peace and love
Which none can enter who its loving ways
Has not learnt here, and fervent striv'n to prove
Meet for its company.—And such the praise

Of Philogonius is, tho' for the bar 345

PHILOGONIUS,
Bp. of Antioch ;
322.

Rear'd, and admired for eloquence ; but he,
For sanctity conspicuous, from the war
Of "*mine and thine*" was call'd, and raised to see

DECEMBER. Of Antioch, and there sat five years, and well
 Govern'd the Church : each wish inordinate 350
 He so had crucified, and passion's swell
 Tamed, as to make on earth a heav'nly state.

21.
 O Rex. *O King of Nations*, God of Israel,
 And Saviour ! Corner-stone, who makest both one !
 COME and save man, and once more in him dwell, 355
 Whom Thou of clay didst form.—God's only Son,

THOMAS,
 Apostle. Who for more confirmation of the faith
 Didst suffer in St. Thomas' mind a doubt
 Of Thy ris'n body ! grant us all in path
 Of *perfect* faith to walk, nor ever out 360

Roam from its precincts ; so his doubting shall
 Our hearts more strengthen than the others' strong
 Assurance, who at first more docile all
 Confest Thee risen, but more slow and long

Arrived at his " My Lord and God !" — This saint 365
 The shortest day illustrates with his light ;
 And bids us always pray, and never faint,
 Till earth's foul shades give place to glory bright.

22
 O Emmanuel. *O our Emmanuel*, Lawgiver and King,
 The nation's Expectation and Desire ! 370
 COME, our Lord God, and our salvation bring,
 And teach our grov'ling nature to aspire.

DECEMBER. To Thee.—Another martyr to Thy love
 We this day praise ; Ischyri^{on}, who from *strength*
 ISCHYRI^{ON},
 Martyr;
 253. His name derived, nor fail'd its sense to prove. 375
 By his Egyptian master he at length

Was bidden to the idols' sacrifice,
 But firm refused : alike forgetting then
 The dignity which still to vulgar eyes
 A magistrate should keep, (who over men 380

Ruling must righteous be, and as the light
 Of sunrise, with no cloud of passion fill'd,)*
 And good Ischyri^{on}'s service, to the height
 Of frenzy wrought, the patient Christian kill'd.

23.
 O Pastor. *O Isr'el's Shepherd*, Ruler in the house 385
 Of David, and whose goings were decreed
 Of old, from everlasting ! COME, our vows
 Hear, and Thy flock in truth and judgment feed,

Gath'ring the lambs with arm, and on Thy breast
 Carrying, and the ewes that are with young 390
 Gently conducting. By such lambs confest
 Wast Thou in Crete, what time in festal song

Ten Martyrs of
 Crete,
 in the Decian
 persecution. The name of Jove was honor'd, god supposed
 Native of th' island. The ten martyrs, stoned,
 To all the insults of the crowd exposed 395
 And every torment, ne'er so much as groan'd

* 2 Sam. xxiii. 3, 4.

DECEMBER. Beneath th' infliction, but exulting died
 For Thy blest name, renouncing "tyrant Jove"
 To lust abandon'd quite, who needs must guide
 His worshippers to such unnat'ral love 400

24.
 GREGORY, of
 Spoleto, Martyr; 304.
 "And all intemp'rance."—Precious in Thy sight
 Is Thy saints' death; and Gregory, a priest
 Of old Spoleto, (whose firm gates their height
 Still rear, with words of triumph ne'er erased

For Carthaginians conquer'd,) found the word 405
 Faithful and true. He night and day employ'd
 In pray'r and fasting, and Thy lessons, Lord !
 In teaching others, and was overjoy'd

At last, when accusation stern was brought
 That many he seduced from idol-rites. 410
 A true confession witnessing, he sought
 Thro' torments sharp heav'n's infinite delights.

O Lord, raise up (we pray Thee) Thy great pow'r
 And come among us, and with might assist;
 Fourth Sunday in Advent. That whereas thro' our sins each day and hour 415
 We let and hinder'd are, nor can resist

Our treach'rous foes, nor run our heav'nly race,
 We may be speedily delivered,
 And by Thy mercy helpt and bounteous grace,
 Who art our Brother, Sov'reign, Priest, and Head. 420

DECEMBER. And lo ! the wond'rous day has dawn'd, when Thou,
 25. The Bridegroom of the Church, from Mary's womb
 Christmas. (Chamber of grace, which the great nuptial vow
 'Tween Thee and our poor nature did illume,)

Like giant issuing did'st Thy glorious way 425
 Begin to run ; glorious to faith's pure eye,
 But to the fleshly gaze no brilliant ray
 Reflecting ; for the shepherds sole were nigh,

By angel warn'd : a crib Thy cradle lay,
 Nor could the trav'lers for their Lord find room ; 430
 Fit entrance on a life, whose latest day
 Must set on Pilate's cross and Joseph's tomb !

But see how num'rous round the manger-throne
 26. The earlier saints are thronging ! Stephen first,
 STEPHEN, The "likest to" his Lord "in look and tone," 435
 1st Martyr. Leader of Christian martyrs : he th' accurst

And persecuting band cut to the heart,
 With Christ's death charging them : their teeth they
 ground
 With rage ; while he, in soul from earth apart,
 Lookt steadfastly to heav'n, and all around 440

His Martyr-King the angels saw, and Him
 Standing at God's right hand to cheer and aid
 His suff'ring servant ; nor the vision dim
 Became as life slow ebb'd and flesh decay'd

DECEMBER. But what says th' holy page ? "Refrain thy voice
 From weeping, and thine eyes from tears : reward 470
 Is thine, and thou may'st yet hope and rejoice ;
 For yet to their own border, saith the Lord,

Thy children shall return." O word of hope,
 Pow'rful to cheer ! All suff'rings, then, on this
 Side hell are sent in Mercy, and their scope 475
 Is that we shun it, and arrive at bliss.

Seest thou not, doubting soul, that had the young
 Children of Beth'lem not by Herod's sword
 Been brought to God, they might have grown among
 The wicked Jews, and crucified their Lord ? 480

He thro' all ages suffers in His saints ;
 And in the twelfth a glorious martyr rear'd
 The Church's rights to guard, and bold complaints
 Against the crown to urge. Full long endear'd

29.
 THOMAS OF
 CANTERBURY,
 Martyr;
 1170.

To English hearts St. Thomas' mem'ry stood ; 485
 Till the eighth Henry,—(to whose "Grace" we owe
 The "blessed" Deformation, with its brood,
 The wicked farce that in the Church of Bow

From time to time is acted, and more things
 Of like impression, which the Church in chains 490
 So *meekly* tolerates because with kings
 She loves to be in favour,)--did the stains

DECEMBER. Of Becket's blood from legal mem'ry wipe
 Gorged with two murder'd queens', and virtuous
 More's,
 And saintly Fisher's ; but the time is ripe, 495
 Or nearly, for just survey of the stores

That tyrant left us, and ejection due.—
 30.
 SABINUS, Sabinus and two deacons with strong nails
 Bishop of Assise, Of iron were so torn that to the view
 &c., Martyrs ; 304.
 Their bowels were exposed ; but pain assails 500

The saints in vain : beaten with clubs at length
 To heav'n they past. Anysia the same day
 Is honor'd ; youthful virgin, who had strength
 In Rome to join the faithful, and to pray

With them in Church, when dreadful penalties 505
 From this deterr'd. Passing Cassandra's gate,
 She was accosted by a guard, whose eyes
 Were taken by her beauty, and who late

Thought to secure her. On her forehead pale
 The cross's sign she traced, but nought replied : 510
 The guard, offended, seized her, tore her veil,
 And by his murd'rous sword the virgin died.

Our civil year with good Sylvester ends,
 31.
 SYLVESTER, Whom God appointed o'er His Church to rule
 Bishop of Rome ; When first the princes of the world were friends 515
 335.
 To Jesu's name. In admirable school

DECEMBER. Of wise Charituis he from boyhood's years
 Was practised; till by Marcellinus made
 A priest of Rome, ere yet the Church's fears
 By Dionysius' rage and threat'ning blade 520

Were waken'd. In the sore and dang'rous time
 That follow'd, he with prudence walkt, conjoin'd
 With peaceful courage, and at length to prime
 Honour was raised. To Nice, by age confined,

He could not go, but legates sent t'assist 525
 At that great Council.—*Lord, be our lamps clear,
 And our loins girt; that so whene'er dismiss
 From earth, we enter heav'n's eternal year!

JANUARY. And oh that as each earthly period, hopes
 1. And fears fresh wakening, on us came, 530
 Circumcision. It were but sprinkled with those sacred drops
 Which this day fell from JESUS! who that name

So full of comfort, grace, and ev'ry charm,
 Began not vainly and in show t' assume,
 But, stretching *God the Saviour's* mighty arm, \ 535
 Fulfill'd what, *ere conceived within the womb,*

He promised by that Name t' accomplish: so,
 When all earth's years are fled, and trembling souls
 To judgment flit, His cross's crimson glow,
 Upon us found, will mark us safe. Swift rolls 540

* The Gospel of *girding the loins*, &c., St. Luke xii., 35, &c.
 is that for St. Sylvester.

JANUARY.

Each month, and week, and day, and hour ; and soon
 The time will come when nothing but that Blood
 And Name will aught avail beneath the moon
 To fortify and cleanse before our God.

2.
 MACARIUS,
 of Alexandria,
 Archbishop ;
 394.

Crossing the Nile with goodly company 545
 Of tribunes and their trains, Macarius heard
 Them say, "These desert-monks must happy be,
 Such cheerfulness is in their looks declared."

"Yes," said the saint, "Macarius is my name,
 And *happy* am I, for the world I scorn ; 550
 But surely then both slavery and shame
 Are yours, who love and serve it night and morn."

The truth thus boldly spoken, and to th' heart
 By God's own Spirit sent, a tribune pierced ;
 Who hast'ning home did all his fortune part 555
 Among the poor, and thenceforth knew no thirst

But for th' eternal riches.

3.
 GENEVIEVE,
 Virgin ;
 512.

Next we praise
 St. G  n  vi  ve, of Paris' city fair
 Chief patroness ; who early did the ways
 Of goodness choose, and her young self prepare 560

To be Christ's handmaid. By Germanus' hand
 She was to God devote, held on her head
 While nones and vespers by the sacred band
 Were chanted ; and the virgin forth was led

JANUARY.

With strictest charge to be next morning brought 565
 Back to the bishop early : he of brass
 A medal gave her then, on which was wrought
 The cross's sign. " And see thou ne'er amass

Bracelets," he said, "and golden ornament,
 Pearl-necklace, or such toys of vanity ; 570
 But with this simple medal be content,
 Ever reminding thee of what employs

Christ's servants' thoughts."—Once when she askt for
 leave
 To Church to go, her mother on the face
 Struck her ; and lost her sight, nor did receive 575
 It back till Génévieve the cross's trace

Made on some water, and her mother's eyes
 Thrice washt. Sore trials did the maid assail,
 And persecutions : she her enemies
 By meekness vanquisht, and once turn'd the scale 580

Of war ; for Attila his march's way
 Changed at her prayers.

Titus, St. Paul's " own son

4.
 Titus,
 Disciple of
 St. Paul

After the common faith," at Crete to stay
 Left by th' apostle, that in unison

With other churches he " things wanting" might 585
 In order set, and bishops place, we next
 Thankfully honour : comfort and delight
 To Paul he gave, who in the sacred text

JANUARY.

Tells us *no rest he in his spirit found*

For want of him at Troas; his last work

590

Was preaching in Dalmatia. Cretan ground

Still has "St. Titus' Church," left by the Turk

In Christian hands.

Syncletica was born

5.
SYNCLETICA,
Virgin; 4th c.

At Alexandria, and from infancy

Imbided the love of virtue, and the scorn

595

Of all that tempts mankind's infirmity

To stray from God. For wealth and beauty soug

In marriage by the noble of the earth,

She chose the better part, and only thought

Her flesh to conquer, and no worldly mirth

600

Or pride admit. When others of her sex,

Moved by her virtue, did her counsel ask,

"Oh!" she would say, "how many toils perplex

Poor worldlings, who pursue their drudging task

For perishable goods; and shall not we,

605

Who seek to serve, for an immense reward,

A heav'nly Master, on our guard still be

Against our foes till safely in the Lord

We sleep?"

Of Him three great Epiphanies,

6.
Epiphany.

This twelfth day from His birth, we celebrate;— 610

The first when a new radiance from the skies

Led to the Manger-throne the wise and great

JANUARY.

Of eastern climes ; the second when the God
 Of glory thunder'd o'er the trembling wave,
 " This is my Son beloved,"* while Satan stood 615
 Ready at hand to tempt ; the third, which gave

At Cana's marriage the best wine when men
 Had drunken well. O that each mystery
 Within our hearts might lodge ! No trials then
 Should we need fear, or man's infirmity ; 620

But offering to our Lord the best we have,
 And fill'd with that blest spirit, o'er His head
 Who dove-like hover'd, should the yawning grave
 Behold in peace, where all the holy dead

Securely lie, who 'he new wine receive 625
 Of th' heavenly Father's kingdom.

7.
 LUCIAN,
 of Antioch,
 Priest and
 Martyr ;
 312.

Lucian,
 When Death, all merciless, did him bereave
 Of sire and tender mother, but a span

Of life had measured : grown to man's estate
 And of much goods possess, he to the poor 630
 Imparted all, and then with labour great
 The Scriptures studied, purging them of store

* St. Matthew's narrative, without the division into chapters, would run thus : " Lo ! a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness, to be tempted of the devil."

JANUARY. Of errors, which into the text had crept,
So that St. Jerom of his labours made
Plentiful use. Ere he in Jesus slept 635
He was imprison'd long, nor e'er betray'd

The faith ; but when almost with hunger dead
 Refused the idol-off'rings, which as test
 Were then presented. Chain'd and prostrate laid,
 He consecrated, on his altar-breast, 640

The mysteries divine.*—Of the same name
Another saint we honour on the day
Succeeding ; who as martyr is to fame
Known only thro' the gen'ral world ; but they

Who keep his relics where he died, confer 645
 A bishop's title : certain 'tis that he
 Evangelized their land, and is as their
 Apostle boasted still.

APOLLINARIS,
the Apologist,
Bishop ;
175.

When fruitlessly
Marcus Aurelius had attempted long
 The Germans to subdue, and thro' the pray'rs 650
 Of the twelfth legion a deliv'rance strong
 And vict'ry were at last obtain'd ; affairs

Of state, and worldly policy, forbade
The emp'ror to abolish the harsh laws
'Gainst Christians made : Apollinaris, sad
To see his flock destroy'd without just cause,

655

* That is, he used his breast as an altar.

JANUARY.

Penn'd his Apology ; the benefit
 Received from God recording, and a fair
 And equal course of laws, which should admit
 No persecutions, asking.

Of that pair 660

9.
 PETER OF
 SEBASTE,
 Bishop ;
 about 387.

Of holy bishops, Basil, named the Great,
 And Gregory of Nyssa, was the saint
 We next commem'rate brother, and fit mate
 In holy virtues. When the Church grew faint

At Arian prevalence, Sebaste him 665
 Had for its bishop, who the deadly weed
 Boldly uprooted soon ; nor shone more dim
 His light against the Macedonians : need

Had then the Church of saints to be her guides ;
 And God, who in His everlasting love 670
 And boundless wisdom for her wants provides,
 This holy household raised, who such might prove.

10.
 MARCIAN,
 Priest and
 Treasurer of the
 Church of
 Constantinople ;
 5th c.

Born at Byzantium, and of family
 Related to the Theodosian house,
 Marcian full early to the world to die 675
 Began in watchings, fasts, and holy vows,

Foll'wing the Baptist ; and unmeasured alms
 In secret giving : priest ordain'd, the poor
 He taught each holy lesson which both calms
 Their souls beneath their trials, and heav'n's door 680

JANUARY.

Ope's to their efforts. Blamed for heresy,
 He, meek and silent, triumpht, nor let go
 Th' occasion yielded thus to purify
 His soul, and raise to a more heav'nly glow

His soaring virtue : many Churches he 685
 Built or repair'd, and wonders wrought.

11.
 HYGINUS,
 Bishop of Rome,
 and Martyr;
 142.

The chair
 Of Peter, when to heav'n's felicity
 Telesphorus had gone, who eleven years

Had sat, was by Hyginus fill'd for three.
 Calm then the Church enjoy'd, 'neath the mild reign 690
 Of Antoninus ; tho' the cruelty
 Of magistrates, and popular disdain

And rage, would ever and anon remind
 Her members of the old condition stern—
 " They that live godly must in heart resign'd 695
 To persecution ever be, and learn

In heav'n alone to count on perfect rest."—
 This Pope did Cerdo, th' impious Marcion's
 Forerunner, from communion bar : the pest,
 Deceiving th' holy father's vigilance 700

By feign'd repentance, was again received ;
 But, preaching secretly his errors old,
 Again was of the Church's rites bereaved,
 And driv'n, with his infection, from the fold.

JANUARY.
12.
ARCADIUS,
Martyr; under
Valerian or
Dioclesian.

When tyrants' fury raged, (the serpent old 705
His brood of rebels moving to make war,
Like hungry wolves, against the holy fold,)
And ev'n compell'd Christ's faithful soldiers, far

From their inclining, to assist at rites
Of idols, good Arcadius his estate 710
Deserted, and his lonely days and nights
To pray'r and watching gave; but peril great

His relatives incurr'd, and one was seized,
His hostage: when the saint this knew he ran
Before the judge, and quickly said well-pleased, 715
"Release my guiltless friend: I am the man

You seek." Soon joint by joint his quiv'ring limbs
Were lopt; while he, his faithful tongue still left,
Steadfast confest on earth, and then in hymns
Of angels join'd, who those for Christ bereft 720

Of life, and tortured, waft to joys above.—
By Austin's self "Illustrious Doctor" styled,
St. Hilary we next record, in love
Of idols rear'd, and with their snares beguiled;

13.
HILARY,
Bishop;
368.

But reason first their folly taught, and One 725
Eternal, changeless Author bade him seek;
Who "gives more grace" where less is used, and soon
The Scriptures sent him, where from Moses meek

JANUARY. He learnt JEHOVAH's Name, and from St. John
 The consubstantial Word ; then baptism sought, 730
 And washt away sin's blackness, and put on
 The robes of priesthood ; but the mitre, brought

Within his view, earnest declined, till forced
 To wear it : banishment for truth he bore ;
 Ever for Christ's high godhead wrote, discoursed, 735
 And suffer'd, till away his life he wore.

14. Of old two brothers in Campania dwelt :
 FELIX OF NOLA, The younger in the world his portion sought,
 Priest ; And follow'd arms ; but Felix early felt
 251. The vanity of earth's best things, and thought 740

That to fulfil his name of *happiness*
 No standard he must follow but our Lord's ;
 Who said, " If to perfection thou wouldst press,
 Sell for the poor thy goods, and thy rewards

In heav'n are stored."—His bishop Maximus 745
 The deserts sought, and Felix then was seized
 By ministers of cruel Decius,
 And thrown in dungeon where his flesh was teased

With broken glass, and potsherds, on the floor
 Ev'rywhere spread ; but, as to Silas erst 750
 And Paul, an angel came, and sudden tore
 The chains from off him, and then bade him first

JANUARY.

Go and assist his bishop, perishing
With cold and hunger. Felix bore him back
To Nola, but himself to suffering
The more exposed, and long endured the lack

Of all that makes life pleasing, till the death
Of Decius turn'd the tide, and some years' peace
The Church enjoy'd.

15.
PAUL,
the Hermit;
342

Led by God's Holy Breath
Into the wilderness, to seek release 760

From dire temptations, by whose cruel pow'r
The Church was tried, Paul soon a taste acquired
For solitude, and each remaining hour
Of life in contemplation, deep retired,

Resolved to spend : enough for him to know 765
There was a world without, and ceaseless pray
For its improvement. God was pleased to show
To holy Anthony th' austerer way

Of Paul's blest life, and sent to th' hermit's cell
That patriarch of monks: with Paul he ate 770
The loaf by raven brought, and from the well
Their thirst assuaged. Paul's glorified estate

Was after shown him.

16.
MARCELLUS,
Bishop of Rome,
and Martyr;
310.

St. Marcellus, priest
'Neath Marcellinus, after vacancy
Of two and forty months, at length was placed 775
On th' highest seat. With wise severity

JANUARY. The canons he enforced, and on him drew
 The lukewarm Christians' enmity ; nor less
 The heathen pow'r offended : short review
 His popedom offers, and no more than guess 780

(From ancient records which him *martyr* name,)
 That violent death he suffer'd for Christ's cause.
 But large the witness is, and wide the fame
 Of Anthony, whose holy life th' applause

17.
 ANTHONY,
 Abbot;
 356.

Of Athanasius, Jerom, Gregory 785
 Of Nazianzum, and great Austin, drew.
 Hearing in Church th' Eternal Verity
 Say to the rich young man, so well who knew

The law to keep, "Sell that thou hast, and give
 Unto the poor, and treasure then in heav'n 790
 Shalt thou possess," the Church he would not leave
 Before his fixt resolve was ta'en, and leav'n

Of earthly love all purged away. Of prayer,
 Humility, and ev'ry virtue, he
 Full soon became a model, and was 'ware 795
 Of Satan's onsets, each variety

Of keenest trial who in turn essay'd
 Upon the saint. He once a vision saw
 Of earth in ev'ry part with snares o'erspread,
 And trembling cried: "Lord, who Thy holy law 800

JANUARY. Can keep 'mid such temptations ?" Then replied
A voice : " The humble man, O Anthony !"

18.
PRISCA, V. M.; 275. Prisca, a noble Roman virgin, died
Beneath the sword, a sad variety

Of torments first enduring. Still at Rome 805
Her dust is kept, in Church that bears her name
With those by Paul saluted, who their home
A temple made, and gain'd undying fame,

Aquila and Priscilla : there, 'tis said,
St. Peter blest an altar, and in urn 810

St. PETER'S
Chair at Rome. Of stone baptized. He, who at voice of maid
Erst trembled, now with aspect bold and stern

Faced th' old idolatry, and fixt his chair,
Centre of Christian oneness, where the gods
Of lust and wine had harbour'd. Oh ! of pray'r 815
And meek endurance great the pow'r ! the rods

Of lictors for the Keys make way, the shrine
Of foulest gods to Mary pure and saints
Of varying orders yields : a sway divine
From this new Sion issues, and complaints 820

Are heard of demons, who lost empire rue.*—

19.
WOLSTAN. B. of Worcester; 1095. Wolstan, in youth by woman's graceful dance
Wantonly tempted, eagerly withdrew
Into a thicket, and with penitence

* It is singular enough that, although the modern English Kalendar omits this Festival of St. Peter's Chair, its gospel, St. Matt. xvi. 13—20, happens to be read in the Second Lesson of the day.

JANUARY. And deep contrition the foul thought bewail'd. 825
 Thenceforward, with strict watchfulness endow'd,
 His senses ne'er annoy'd him, nor assail'd
 With froward visions. Far above the crowd

Of monks he soar'd in holy life austere.
 At last, the see of Worcester filling, he 830
 Th' intruding Norman braved, and said : " To dear
 St. Edward only, who, with th' Holy See

Concurring, gave the honour, I resign ;"
 Then struck his crosier firm in Edward's tomb,
 That none could loosen.

20.
 FABIAN,
 Bishop of Rome,
 and M.;
 250.

 Fabian, by divine 835
 Guidance in form of settling dove, t' assume

The Church's empire led, full sixteen years
 Presided, and a glorious martyr died,
 One of the Decian victims ; as appears
 From Cyprian and Jerom ; nor belied, 840

Constant in death, his life's bright purity.
 SEBASTIAN, M.; Sebastian, rear'd at Milan, enter'd soon
 288. The imperial army, the more easily
 T' assist the martyrs ; and their heav'nly boon

Himself attain'd : to Mauritanian band 845
 Of archers he was given, who his frame
 Cover'd with arrows, but the dire command
 Not so fulfill'd. A widow meek, by name

JANUARY. Irene, found him living, and her care
 Him of his wounds recover'd : he refused 850
 To fly, but startled the imperial ear
 With just reproaches, and to death was bruised
 With cudgels.

21.
 AGNES, V. M. ;
 304. Agnes, of all tongues and pens
 The worthy theme, her beauteous name fulfill'd :
 Exposed by order to abandon'd men's 855
 Profligate lust, she spotless yet was kill'd,
 And a *chaste lamb* thus proved.* E'er since, with God's
 Blest Mother and St. Thecla, she is deem'd
 Purity's patroness, and worthy lauds
 Receives. The good à Kempis her esteem'd, 860

And tells of wonders thro' her pray'rs achieved.
 In merry England erst a holiday
 Her feast for women was.

21.
 VINCENT,
 Deacon and
 Martyr ;
 304.

Not yet received
 To priestly rank, like him who led the way
 For Christian martyrs did St. Vincent die, 865
 A Levite only : with his bishop he
 Famisht in prison was allow'd to lie
 For many a day, in hope their constancy
 Would fail ; but Dacian saw them vigorous,
 And full of courage and alternate threats 870
 And promises employed. Valerius,
 Who stammer'd in his speech, his *son* entreats

* St. Augustine remarks that her name signifies *chaste*, in Greek,
 and a *lamb*, in Latin.

JANUARY. To make "a good confession." Dacian
 Banisht Valerius, but on Vincent tried
 All horrid tortures ; but the saintly man 875
 Endured them all ; and, ere he joyful died,

His gaoler saw converted, who had seen
 Thro' prison-chinks a glorious radiance, giv'n
 To cheer the sufferer's spirit: he between
 Two choirs of angels sang himself to heav'n. 880

23.
 JOHN THE
 ALMONER,
 Patriarch of
 Alexandria ;
 619.

Nobly descended, rich, deprived of wife
 And children, John of Cyprus his estate
 Show'r'd on the needy, till his holy life
 Raised him to Alexandria's throne, full late

In years. He first required a list exact 885
 Of all *his masters* : so the poor he named,
 Who open heav'n by prayer to souls that act
 Their benefactors' part. This saint is famed

For vig'rous rules, all tending to prevent
 Oppression of the poor: the revenues 890
 Of that rich see, (in all the Orient
 Then first in wealth,) he bade his stewards use

For their necessities. Receiving praise
 From one he had relieved, "Not yet I've bled
 For thee," he answer'd : "short of this who stays 895
 Has not fulfill'd the precept of our Head."

“Dear son,” th’ apostle call’d him, “in the Lord
A faith’ful fellow-lab’rer;” and such trust
Had in his love and wisdom that t’ afford
Comfort and boldness to the suff’ring just

From her position be.* 'Tis said the saint
So felt this warning threat that he was stirr'd 910
To tenfold earnestness, and, all restraint
Casting away, to martyr's crown preferr'd.

Of his old heart dispersing, and a new
And heav'nly life on sudden kindling there.
Fall'n to the earth, he bade his last adieu
To all earth's hopes, and thro' that blinding glare 920

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JANUARY. Heard the meek voice : "Why persecut'st thou me ?"
 And askt what this new Lord would have him do,
 And tarried not, but in the baptist'ry
 His persecuting guilt washt out ; then, true

To his great calling, the anointed Name 925
 Before the gentiles, kings, and Isr'el, brought.
 Lord, may we show us "thankful for the same
 By foll'wing th' holy doctrine which he taught."

26.
 POLYCARP,
 Bp. of Smyrna,
 and Martyr;
 166.

So follow'd Polycarp, who from St. John
 The faith received, and bishop was by him 930
 Of Smyrna made, and fill'd the sacred throne
 For sev'nty years, till th' outward eyes were dim,

But th' inward bright remain'd. Christ gave him praise
 Above all bishops, in th' Apocalypse
 Him only faultless finding, and the bays 935
 Of martyrdom with His own gracious lips

Promised to give.* When bidden to blaspheme
 That Name divine, "These six and eighty years,"
 Said he, "I've served my Lord, nor harm from Him
 Received, but always good : how then His ears 940

Can I with censure wound?" The sentence past
 Of burning, he his clothes put off, and calm
 Went to the flame ; which like a rainbow vast
 Circled his glowing body, nor the palm

* Rev. ii. 10.—"*Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*"

JANUARY. Could he obtain till pierced with soldier's spear 945
 Like his loved Lord.

27.

JOHN

CHRYBOSTOM,
 Abp. of
 Constantinople,
 and Doctor
 of the Church;
 407.

Him of the golden mouth

We next record ; whose fame, most bright and clear,
 Has spread thro' east and west, from north to south.

Libanius his tutor, ere he died,
 Was askt who fittest was him to succeed 950
 In chair of eloquence. "John," he replied,
 "Had not the Christians stol'n him." Happy deed !

To which we owe incomparable store
 Of Scripture-comments, holy homilies,
 Moving persuasions, consecrated lore, 955
 And zealous warnings. As from precipice

He saw men falling in the quenchless lake,
 And deem'd his only care was to prevent
 This worst of evils. Hence he wrote, and spake,
 And ceaseless pray'd, and other bishops sent 960

To distant parts ; and now enjoys his meed.—

28.

CYRIL, Patriarch
 of Alexandria ;
 444.

Doctor of th' Incarnation, and of God's
 Blest Mother's honour in its early need
 Stern vindicator, Cyril left th' abodes

Of earth for immortality on th' eve 965
 Of Peter's and of Paul's great Feast ; but th' old
 Mart'rology of Rome, which all receive,
 On this day mentions him. To guard the fold

JANUARY.

From impious error's shock was his delight,
 And at the great Ephesian Council's head 970
 He sat, and represented the high right
 Of Celestine. Nestorius, who had shed

His venom thro' the Church, was then deposed
 And after banisht; nor a penitent
 Ever became, but miserably closed 975
 His eyes; and thro' the East in wide extent

His heresy survives.

29.
 FRANCIS DE
 SALES,
 Bishop;
 1622.

While blest de Sales
 Was yet within his mother's womb enclosed
 She offer'd him to God, and pray'd that all
 A mother's comfort might to her be lost 980

Rather than e'er she birth to one might give
 Who would by mortal sin His Majesty
 Offend.—Scarce past thro' boyhood, and to live
 Unlikely, (so severe infirmity

Had seized him,) he was askt what orders he 985
 Desired to give. "This body," he replied,
 "I wish dissected, that of use I be
 At least when dead;" but God, his heav'nly Guide,

Had great designs for Francis, who became
 Famous for meekness, tho' by nature warm, 990
 And sev'nty thousand, call'd by Calvin's name,
 Converted to the faith.—Once, when alarm

JANUARY. His steward felt lest the good bishop's heart,
 So open to innumerable poor,
 Should leave his coffers empty, "How to part 995
 Can I refuse with all my earthly store,"

Answer'd the saint as to the *Crucified*
 He pointed, "for a God who *this* became
 For love of us?"

30.
 MARTINA, V. M.;
 3rd century. Martina faithful died
 In torment for the love of His blest name 1000

At Rome, where consecrated to her stood
 A chapel by St. Gregory the Great
 Frequented. Relics, witnessing her blood
 For Jesus shed, with solemn pomp and state

From the eighth Urban due translation found: 1005
 He her new church erected, and composed
 Two Breviary-hymns her praise to sound.—
 31.
 MARCELLA,
 Widow;
 410. Marcella, who in death her eyelids closed

Early in cent'ry fifth, is styled the boast
 Of all the Roman ladies.* Half a year 1010
 After her marriage she her husband lost,
 And wisely would not her lone self endear

Again to mortal man, and so refused
 A consul's offers. Neither flesh nor wine
 She henceforth tasted, but her moments used 1015
 Wholly in pious reading, pray'r divine,

* She is called *the glory of Roman ladies* by St. Jerom, eleven
 of whose letters to her are extant.

JANUARY

And visiting the Churches. Many a maid
 Of quality began to imitate
 Her bright example, and were not afraid
 Themselves 'neath her direction to instate. 1020

Scourged by the Goths because she to the poor
 Had treasures giv'n, she felt a modest fear
 For a dear pupil, vent'ring to implore
 The soldiers, at their feet with many a tear,

Not to insult her. God their spirits bow'd 1025
 To pity: maid and widow both were brought
 To St. Paul's Church, by Alaric endow'd
 With right of sanctuary.
 If ever aught

FEBRUARY.
 I.
 IGNATIUS,
 Bp. of Antioch,
 and Martyr;
 107.

Could prove our faith divine, and boldly show
 That Christians carry Christ within their breasts, 1030
 'Tis blest Ignatius' martyrdom;* whose glow
 Of love so warm'd him that he eager prest

Into the lions' mouths, *as God's fine wheat*
Ground by their teeth to be, that Christ's pure bread
He thus might prove. His heart the seat 1035
 Of none but heav'n's affections high, he said

* St. Ignatius was styled Theophorus, or *one that carries God*; and it was as one *professing to carry the Crucified Man within him* that Trajan condemned him. The expressions in italics in the next two stanzas were used by the saint.

FEBRUARY. *His love was crucified*, and long'd to be
 Where love now reigns triumphant : the fierce beasts
 Left but his larger bones, which, instantly
 Seized by the faithful, were convey'd in chests 1040

To Antioch and elsewhere.

2. Our second Eve
 Candlemas; Presentation of our Lord
 in the Temple; and Purification of B. V. M.
 No purifying needed, such as bound
 Women by nature's order forced to grieve
 At sinful births ; since " she with child was found

Of the Holy Ghost," and since the " Holy Thing" 1045
 Of her engender'd was the Son of God ;—
 But, tho' at once our Prophet, Priest, and King
 Divine, He undertook the debt we owed ;

And she, blest Maiden-Mother, meek and mild,
 His follower in all things, to the shrine 1050
 As this day came with her Almighty Child,
 Nor with the poor man's off'ring did decline

To buy Him back ; Him, sole oblation fit
 By man e'er offer'd ; whom this priestess now
 Presents in His Sire's temple, brilliant lit 1055
 With Simeon's torch, whose everlasting glow

Each evening shines when *Nunc Dimittis*' strains
 Die on the ear, the fading hues of day
 To song converting ;—" the vast Gentile plains
 A light t' illumine, and Isr'el's glorious ray." 1060

FEBRUARY.
 3.
 BLASE, Bishop,
 and Martyr;
 316.

Sebaste's bishop, Blase, attain'd the crown
 Of martyrdom beneath Licinius's pow'r :
 At first to Eastern parts was his renown
 Confined ; but th' holy wars his relics o'er

The West dispersed, which instruments were made 1065
 Of wondrous cures. Ragusa's commonweal
 Her patron held him, and our English trade
 Of wool-combers his feast in Norwich still

And Bradford keep with honours yearly fresh
 And jocund pomp ; whether because their art 1070
 In th' East began, or that the martyr's flesh
 With iron combs was teased in many a part.

END OF THE FIRST BOOK.

BOOK II.—FEBRUARY.

FEBRUARY.

4.
Septuagesima.

No more of Christ's fair Advent now we sing,
 Auspicious birth, or bright Epiphany ;
 Or with sweet Mary to the temple bring
 The Infant-God ;—but, sad remounting high

To Eden's garden, our sire's fall bemoan, 5
 And penal labour, which on us descend ;
 Or listen to th' apostle's awful tone
 That "race" proclaiming where the many bend

Their rival steps, "but one receives the prize ;"
 Of *temp'rance* telling, if th' unfading wreath 10
 We would obtain, which God before our eyes
 Has radiant hung ; of *bodies kept beneath*

The spirit's pow'r, if reprobation dire
 We would avoid : last, hear the gentle voice
 Of Christ himself the lab'ers call and hire 15
 Enforcing, and the everlasting joys

Of heav'n thus fig'ring ; but with warning close
 Assuring all, "the last shall be the first,
 And the first last ; for few the Father chose
 Tho' many have been call'd" to slake their thirst 20

FEBRUARY. From that pure fountain which for David's house
 And for Jerusalem's inhabitants
 For sin and for uncleanness streams : the vows
 Of God are on us, then as penitents

Let us our course anew begin, the things 25
 Behind forget, and reach to those before,
 And for the prize of God's high summonings

^{5.}
AGATHA, V. M.; In Jesus press ;—like Agatha, the flow'r
^{251.}

Of maids of Sicily : most foul assaults
 Upon her virtue she subdued, nor less 30
 Resolved the keenest torments bore : from vaults
 Of prison brought she gloried to confess

Christ as her life and safety : her fair breast
 Was tortured and cut off, her body roll'd
 Naked o'er burning coals and potsherds : rest 35
 At length she gain'd, and glory now untold

^{6.}
DOROTHEA,
V. M., under
Dioclesian.

In heav'n enjoys.—Another martyr-maid
 The next day brings, blest Dorothy, who bore
 Most cruel torments, but would ne'er be led
 To heathen nuptials, nor profane adore 40

The idol-names. Apostate women, sent
 Her to seduce, she brought again to faith ;
 And with one named Theophilus obtain'd
 A like success, after her sentence, death

FEBRUARY. By loss of head denouncing : fruits and flow'rs, 45
 'Tis said, she sent him, by her heav'nly Spouse
 Miraculously giv'n thro' angel-pow'rs.
 Her body, where the yellow Tiber flows,

In famous church is kept, which bears her name.—

7. ROMUALD, 50
 Founder of the
 Order of
 Camaldoli;
 1027.
 Born of Ravenna's ducal line, and rear'd
 In love of pleasure, Romuald yet felt shame
 That nothing for God's honour he appear'd

Likely to undertake : when in the wood
 He hunted, he would lonely stop to pray
 And envy hermits. An affair of blood, 55
 In which his sire was guilty, made him pay

For expiation of his presence there,
 Forty-days' penance ; and he soon became
 Enamor'd of monks' life, who could not bear
 His greater strictness, which their sloth did blame, 60

And fain would kill him : later he incurred
 Like risk from superstitious men, who knew
 He wisht to leave them, and would have interr'd
 His corpse among them for protection due !

Camaldoli he founded, and there join'd 65
 The life of monks and hermits : the lone mount,
 By dark firwood o'ershow'd, fills the mind
 With love of solitude ; and many a fount

E

FEBRUARY.

Sparkles around.

8.
CUTHMAN,
Confessor;
8th cent.

Up from his cradle train'd
To perfect virtue the good Cuthman seem'd : 70
Of south of England native, he obtain'd
That priceless boon, as 'tis in heaven deem'd,

Th' example of good parents, whose least word
He ne'er transgrest : his father dead, his poor
Fortune he lavisht on his mother's board 75
And maint'nance due, and then from door to door

Would beg for her subsistence : a low cot
He built where tow'rs of Bramber frown'd, and soon
Dug for a Church foundations : the same spot
Was honour'd by his relics, and as boon 80

Giv'n by the Conq'ror to the abbey great
Of Fecam, in his Norman land, nor came
Beneath the bishop's pow'r.

9.
APOLLONIA,
V. M. ; 249.

The latest date
Of th' Emp'ror Philip's reign preserves the name

Of Apollonia, who, 'mid many more 85
Foll'wers of Christ, sustain'd the rabble's rude
And cruel rage on Alexandria's shore,
But ne'er were to idolatry subdued.

A poet stirr'd the mob, events to come
Pretending to foretell. Our aged saint, 90
A dedicated virgin from the bloom
Of early years, was seized without complaint,

FEBRUARY.

And beaten on the jaws till all her teeth
 Fell out, then threaten'd with the fire unless
 Some impious words she would pronounce; but death 95
 The maid preferr'd : as if in some distress

And doubt of mind, she askt a short delay ;
 But, when in freedom, instantly she leapt
 Into the flames : the crowd by civil fray
 Were turn'd from Christian blood, but many slept 100

In Jesus first, and Decius' pow'r renew'd
 Next year the persecution.

From first youth

10.
 SCHOLASTICA,
 Virgin;
 About 543.

To God devoted, and by Him endued
 With ev'ry grace, Scholastica the truth

Of Christ's blest saying proves, " Ask and receive." 105
 For when her brother Benedict, whose rule
 She follow'd, was resolved one night to leave
 Her cell, and she with him desired more full

And lengthy talk, she instant laid her hands
 Upon the table, and her head bent down 110
 Upon them, praying the divine commands
 Might force his stay ; on which a threat'ning frown

The face of heav'n o'erspread, and storm so dire
 Follow'd that none from out his shelter dared
 Himself to trust. It seems the maid's desire 115
 Sprang from foreshadow'd death, and thus was heard ;

FEBRUARY. For, three days after, did her brother see
 Her soul in shape of dove ascend to heav'n,
 And sent some brethren from his monast'ry,
 Her corpse to bring.—Ev'n saints must die: 'tis
 giv'n 120

11. To none to 'scape that sentence old, "Return
 Sexagesima. Unto the ground whence thou was form'd; for dust
 Thou art and shall be dust again." We mourn
 At the sad sentence, and the new distrust
 Of angel-pow'rs at gate of Eden placed 125
 To bar our entrance; but the word of God
 Is giv'n for consolation, if not waste
 By the wayside it fall, and down be trod,
 Nor on the stony ground where all is dry,
 Nor thorns spring up and choke it, but in good 130
 And honest hearts it sink, who anxious try
 To keep what has been heard, and bring forth fruit
 With patience; which is needed much, nor can
 From love be torn, but always close abides.
 12. Meletius, Patriarch of Antioch;
 Sexagesima. About 382. Meletius' case this shows, (meek, much-loved man!) 135
 Where innocently saints on diff'ring sides

Took part, and tho' he, honour'd president
 Of that great council* which confirm'd the faith
 Of Nice with due additions, nathless went
 Out of this life of woe, and sank in death, 140

* The First of Constantinople. The Creed, as given at Nice, ended with the words, "And [I believe] in the Holy Ghost;" but the fathers at Constantinople added "The Lord and Lifegiver, who proceedeth from the Father, who with," &c., to the end.

FEBRUARY. Unreconciled to Rome. What then ? his *heart*
 Was Catholic, and thus succeeding popes
 Have loved to honour him. Blest, loving art !
 Which winks at outward schism where heav'nly hopes

And virtues are the same.

Of num'rous band 145

Of martyrs in Armenia the Less

13.
POLYEUCTUS,
Martyr ;
Middle of 3d
cent.

The first was Polyuctus ; whom his friend
Nearchus, when the news of fresh distress

Arrived, converted, and inspired his soul
 With hope of martyrdom : with tortures dire 150
 He was assail'd, nor less with reas'nings foul ;
 And worse than all, the husband and the sire

Saw wife and children weeping sore to shake
His resolution ; but so much the more
His heart by grace was strengthen'd; and to make 155
More converts he prevail'd by the sweet pow'r

Of exhortation when on road to death.
Nearchus his blood gather'd, and his fame
Afterwards spread. French kings were wont the faith
Of treaties to establish by his name. 160

14.
VALENTINE,
Priest and
Martyr ;
8d cent.

Valentine was in Rome a holy priest,
Who with St. Marius and his family
Aided the martyrs, suff'ring and opprest
'Neath Claudius, of the imperial dignity

FEBRUARY.

Second so-named possessor. Soon the Saint 165
 Was to the prefect sent ; who, finding each
 Promise was ineffectual, gave command
 To beat with clubs and then behead.—To teach

Young Christians to avoid the heathen play
 Of drawing names of girls about this time 170
 In Juno's honour, billets on his day
 Were giv'n with names of saints inscribed. Our rhyme

Has thus the martyr to record supposed
 Patron of worldly, tho' still lawful, love,
 In heathen emblems triflingly disclosed ;— 175
 But no such toys he minds in climes above.

15.
 FAUSTINUS and
 JOVITA, MM. ;
 121.

Faustinus and Jovita brothers were
 Of noble birth, and of the Christian name
 Zealous professors ; preaching without fear
 In Brescia's city while with coward-shame 180

Its bishop in the troubles lay conceal'd,
 Preferring life below to heav'nly joy.
 Their courage soon against the brothers steel'd
 The heathen hearts, and wrought them sore annoy

'Neath Adrian's rule : Julian, a heathen lord, 185
 Them apprehended ; and the emperor,
 Passing thro' Brescia, found their hearts so stored
 With constancy that they full meekly bore

FEBRUARY. Torments and threats alike. The city still
Honours them as its patrons, and its boast 190
Makes of their relics.—Lord ! our spirits fill
With like endurance when we're tempted most.

16.
ONESIMUS,
Disciple of
St. Paul.
Of Phrygian birth, and slave t' a man of note,
(Philemon, who in great Colossæ dwelt,) 195
Onesimus his master robb'd, and sought
Safety in flight ; but better safety felt

From preaching of St. Paul, who then at Rome
Was pris'ner for the faith, and soon baptized
The runaway, impatient till his home
Again he saw, and lord, (now highly prized 200

As Christian brother,) and forgiveness gain'd.
Th' apostle saw him useful, and *in bond*
*Of faith and love would gladly have retained ;**
But scorn'd to do a wrong, or " go beyond"

Philemon, whom he therefore courteous askt 205
For the slave's freedom, nor refusal met.—
Jerom and others say that he was taskt
With prelate's toil, and that his last sun set

In martyr's blood.

17.
FLAVIAN,
Archbishop of
Constantinople,
and Martyr ;
449.
St. Flavian was a priest
Of merit excellent, and treasurer 210
Of great Byzantium's Church, when to his rest
St. Proclus went. Full well the emperor

* Philemon 13.

FEBRUARY.

Knew Flavian's worth, and his promotion seal'd ;
 But, list'ning to a eunuch's voice, had hope
 Of present, as a mark that grateful felt 215
 The new archbishop ; who no worldly scope

Had entertain'd, and so would not present
 A worldly gift, but sent some blessed bread,
 Saying the treasures of the Church were lent
 For other uses. This the fount and head 220

Of all his suff'rings, which at last were crown'd
 With martyrdom by cruel kicks and blows
 From some Eutychians : thus the saint is found
 For th' Incarnation's myst'ry to repose

18.
Quinquagesima.

Sinking in blood ;—myst'ry of love divine 225
 Which urged the Father's Darling t' eager seek
 The holy city, there to disentwine
 The web prophetic, and that Aspect meek

Deliver up to mock'ry, phlegm, and spite ;
 That sacred flesh to scourging and the cross. 230
 What wonder, then, if He takes no delight
 In "tongues of men and angels" with the loss

Of charity, faint image of His own ?
 And scorns as tinkling cymbal or loud brass
 All prophecy, and mysteries deep-known, 235
 And mountain-moving faith, and scatter'd mass

FEBRUARY.

Of goods among the poor, and body giv'n
To burning, without "that most excellent gift"
Which suffers long, is kind, and has no leav'n
Of envy or of vaunting, doth not lift 240

Itself on high, nor act unseemly, seek
Its own, nor evil think ; but all things bears,
Believes, hopes, and endures. O Lord most meek !
Into our hearts Thy Holy Ghost, who shares

Thine and the Father's godhead, gracious shed, 245
And give this bond of peace and of all good,
Without which whosoever lives is dead
Before Thy sight.—By this Barbatus stood

19.
BARBATUS.
Bishop of
Benevento ;
682.

Firm in his day against the monstrous sloth
Of those 'mong whom he toil'd while yet a priest, 250
And kind remonstrated ; attempting both
Fervour and penitence to wake ; nor ceased

For slanders vile, by which at length they drove
The good man from them to his native place
And the awaiting mitre : there his love 255
Uprooted idol-rites, whose ling'ring trace

The soil polluted.

Afric furnishes

20.
TYRANNIO,
Bishop of Tyre,
and others,
Martyrs ;
beginning of 4th
cent.

The next day's saints ; all martyrs, of whom some
Were to wild beasts exposed : Eusebius says
Himself was present in the hippodrome, 260

FEBRUARY. And saw the savage creatures, albeit used
 To human blood, refuse to touch God's sons,
 And on the keepers turn : the leopards, loosed
 Against a youth, would seem his flesh and bones

About to crush, when, suddenly restrain'd 265
 By heaven, at his feet they stopt : a bull,
 Urged fruitless by hot iron goads, remain'd
 At distance obstinate : their trials full,

The saints were by the sword immortal made.
 Tyrannio, who all this had seen, was left 270
 Longer on earth six years the Church's head
 At Tyre ; at last by drowning was bereft

21. Of this world's life ;—if life it can be call'd
Ash Wednesday. Which shades of death environ, and to dust
 And ashes each day hastens ; life enthrall'd 275
 By sin, and hopeful only in the trust

That, by His merits whom as " God of all
 Mercy" we sad invoke, it may be changed
 For better. But our melancholy fall
 Has render'd penance needful : once estranged 280

From Him, with " broken heart" we must return,
 " With fasting and with mourning," and salt tears
 Which He will treasure as in sacred urn,
 And bid us at the last subdue our fears.

FEBRUARY. O rend we then our heart and not our vest, 285
 And "weep between the altar and the porch:"
 So will His love pity our souls distress,
 And in them kindle its own quenchless torch.

22.
 St. Peter's Chair
 at Antioch. "Lovest thou me?" to Peter thrice He said,
 And "Feed my sheep" was the commission large: 290
 Those sheep th' apostle first at Antioch fed,
 Ere yet at Rome he took severer charge.

And fitting 'twas that he who had the keys
 Received of the great royalty of heav'n,
 With pow'r men's sins to bind or to release, 295
 Should, where the name of Christian first was giv'n,

His empire earliest fix, and Asia
 Guide in its capital, and souls direct
 "Scatter'd thro' Pontus, Cappadocia,
 Galatia, Bithynia, elect 300

According to foreknowledge of the Sire,
 Thro' Spirit's sanctifying, to obey
 The Christ, whose blood was sprinkled on them." Higher
 After sev'n years he moved, when th' Appian way

He enter'd, daring death, and holy Paul, 305
 Apostle of the Gentiles, with him join'd
 In their great city, queen of nations all.
 O blessed pair, in martyrdom combined!

FEBRUARY.
23.
SERENUS,
a gardener,
Martyr;
327.

Martyrdom, which to no exalted state
Is limited, as next day's victim shows, 310
Serenus ; who left country, friends, estate,
For life ascetic, and a garden chose,

Tilling it with his hand that it might yield
Enough for sustenance : some months he hid
From persecution, but at length, reveal'd 315
By wicked accusation, he was bid

Sacrifice to the gods, and lost his head
For bold refusal ; and now, planted high
In garden of the Lord, (true Eden's shade,)
Brings forth the flow'rs and fruits that never die. 320

24.
MATTHIAS,
Apostle.

Almighty God, who didst Matthias choose
In traitor Judas' place ! grant that Thy Church,
Preserved from false apostles, ne'er may lose
The guidance of true pastors, who will seek

The lost, and bring again the driv'n away, 325
And strengthen the diseased, and the sick cure.
For this Thy faithful people fervent pray
Four times a year, with fasting ; when the store

Of heavenly gifts is open'd, and the hands
Of Thine anointed servants duly spread 330
On candidates for priesthood. Nought withstands
Thy pow'r, and Thou Thyself "hast purchased

FEBRUARY.

A universal Church by precious blood
Of Thy dear Son." O "mercifully look
Upon her;" that with innocence endued, 335
And fill'd with truth of doctrine from Thy book,

The new-ordain'd may be, nor suddenly
The bishops hands may lay, but wise elect.
And thou, blest Jesus, who Thy ministry,
And choice of th' apostolic band select, 340

25.
1st Sunday in
Lent.

With fast of forty days in desert wild
Wouldst sad precede ! " give grace such abstinence
To use, that, flesh subdued to spirit" mild,
" We may obey Thy motions" good, nor sense

E'er rule within us. So, like Thee, o'er hell's 345
Dread prince we'll triumph ; and no hungry want,
Presumption, or that love of fame which dwells
In " the clear spirit" still most dominant

Shall tempt us from Thee ; but like Abram we
Shall ready prove our best-beloved to give 350
At Thy command, and with the hierarchy
Of heav'n Thy will shall do, who always live

26.
ALEXANDER,
Patriarch of
Alexandria;
326.

In Thy blest presence.
Alexander ruled
Next to Achillas in the patriarch-see
Of Alexandria. When first love was cool'd, 355
Arius his blaspheming heresy

FEBRUARY.

Began to kindle, with vile spite inflamed
 Because our saint above him had been raised.
 Could th' heretic by love have been reclaim'd
 The patriarch had restored him, and effaced 360

So foul a blot, so winning was his heart.
 At length no choice was left: a synod large
 Condemn'd the error new, and all who part
 Took in its spread; depriving of their charge

The Arian priests. And soon the great Nicene 365
 Council confirm'd the judgment, and declared
 The Son of th' Highest had eternal been,
 One with His Father. Alexander, spared

For this great triumph, did not long survive;
 But ever and anon in later days 370
 His spirit lives, and keeps with it alive
 Zeal for the same high truth, whose glorious rays,

27.
 LEANDER,
 Bishop of Seville;
 596.

Spread thro' the world, by no Tartarean blasts
 Can e'er be smother'd. This Leander shows,
 Bishop of Seville, whose just glory lasts 375
 Long as his dust and mould'ring bones repose

Beneath that sumptuous shrine. A hundred years
 Had Arian error in that region reign'd,
 By Visigoths brought in; but he by tears,
 And constant supplications meek, obtain'd 380

FEBRUARY.

From God its total rout, and soon received
 Congratulating missive from the great
 And holy Gregory. Nowhere now believed
 More firmly is the Son's co-equal state

Than in romantic Spain.

A pestilence 385

Laid waste the empire for twelve ling'ring years,
 So cruel, that men lost their nat'ral sense
 Of pity to their nearest kindred. Fears

28.
 Martyrs in the
 Great Pestilence;
 262.

Of death alone possess them, and they fled
 From dying friends as from a bitt'rest foe. 390
 But Christians, who thro' Him they love are dead
 To earthly joys, are by no earthly woe

From duty turn'd ; and Alexandria's streets
 This lesson saw, and felt the cross's might.
 Its meanest foll'wers far surpass the feats 395
 Of worldly heroes ;—while they danger slight

Of foul infection, and the heathen sick
 As brethren tend, and decently when dead
 Inter ;—and thus the holy Church a quick
 Mortality of martyrs suffered. 400

29.
 [OSWALD,
 Archbishop of
 York ;
 992.

Once in four years thy festival comes round,
 Old York's archbishop, Oswald ! who didst die
 On th' intercalary day, and will be found
 Safe " in Thy lot " when once eternity

FEBRUARY. Has banisht time. In visiting thy flock, 405
 Preaching incessant, and each old abuse,
 And long ingrain'd, reforming, (nor the shock
 To timid minds regarding,) thou didst use

The fleeting hours once lent thee. Of Christ's poor
 Daily thou Twelve didst feed; and their hard feet 410
 Didst wash and kiss. At length, thy warfare o'er,
 At Worcester, in St. Mary's calm retreat,

Sickness approacht thee.* Then for guerison
 Unction and Host thou tookst; and with the words,
 "Glory be to the Father, and the Son, 415
 And Holy Ghost," becamest entire the Lord's.]

MARCH.
 I.
 DAVID,
 Archbishop;
 544.

Son of a British prince, St. David thought
 God's service higher glory than to rule,
 And early in sweet Vectis' island sought
 His soul to perfect, and earth's loves to cool. 420

At length, like Baptist from the desert drear,
 His solitude he left, and went to preach
 T' his countrymen, and built, Menevia near,
 Twelve convents fair, where men might learn and teach

The heav'nly life, of and food with labour get. 425
 Pelagian error roused him to confute
 In open synod, and with speeches set,
 Its lies revived: then at the absolute

* So great was St. Oswald's sanctity, that St. Dunstan obliged him to hold the see of Worcester along with that of York.

MARCH.

'Hest of the council he Dubritius' see
 (To him resign'd) agreed to occupy ; 430
 But chang'd its place to greater privacy,
 Where holy he might live, and holier die.

2.
 CHAD,
 Bishop of
 Lichfield;
 673.

At Lindisfarne brought up, Chad was install'd
 In Mercia's bishopric, and fixt its place
 At Lichfield, or the *Field of Dead*, so call'd 435
 From many a martyr who his holy race

There finisht 'neath Maximian ; whence the town
 Bears for its arms a landscape cover'd o'er
 With martyr'd bodies.—Melted and weigh'd down
 Was Chad with fear of th' overhanging store 440

Of heav'nly judgments ; and whene'er the sky
 Was torn with lightning, and the thunder roar'd,
 He to the Church would haste, and prostrate cry
 For mercy, of "the terrors of the Lord"

Thinking profound, and of that wrathful day 445
 Which soon shall burn the world. At Lichfield he
 But thirty months did sit, and then away
 By pestilence to blest eternity

3.
 MARINUS and
 ANTERIUS,
 Martyrs;
 272.

Was ta'en.
 Marinus, famed for wealth and race
 At Cæsarea, was in course prepared 450
 To occupy the newly vacant place
 Of a centurion ; when a foe declared,

F

MARCH.

"Marinus cannot have the post, for he
A Christian is." Achæus, governor
Of Palestina, certified would be 455
Of th' accusation, and would straight confer

With the accused ; who then confessing bold,—
"Three hours I give thee to reflect, and call
Thy answer back," Achæus said, "or hold
By its results." The bishop from the hall 460

Marinus led to church, and to his sword
Pointed, and then to gospel-book : "Now make
Thy choice." The soldier graspt the living word,
Went back, and was beheaded. Then to take

The corpse and bury was Asterius' joy, 465
For which he soon like martyrdom endured :
Blest saint, by work so brief of love's employ,
Who endless rest and triumph hast secured !

4.
2nd Sunday in
Lent;
*Reminiscere.**

Call to remembrance, Lord, Thy kindnesses,
And mercies, which have ever been of old : 470
Give us not over to our enemies ;
But free us, God of Isr'el ! from their hold.

*Ps. Ad Te,
Domine,
levavi.*

To Thee our souls we lift, we trust in Thee ;
Confound us not, nor let our foes rejoice :
"No power of ourselves to help have we :"
Our cry consider, hearken to our voice ; 475

* This and the next two Sundays in Lent are respectively called
Reminiscere, *Oculi*, and *Lætare*, from the first words of their
Introits in the Missal. These Introits I have versified in their places.

MARCH.

And "keep us outwardly and inwardly,"
 In soul and body; that 'neath Thy control
 We may be saved "from all adversity
 May happen to the body," and our soul 480

O'er evil thoughts may triumph.

5.
 ADRIAN and
 EUBULUS,
 Martyrs of
 Palestine;
 308.

Diocles
 Had sev'n years scourged the Church, and his bad acts
 Continued in Galerius: his decrees
 Fit tool find in Firmilian, who exacts

All that to bloodiest natures gives delight. 485
 Adrian and Eubulus had but come
 To visit the confessors who in plight
 Of criminals were guarded in their home

At Cæsarea: he who kept the gates
 Askt whither they were going, and for what. 490
 Each owns the truth, his errand bold relates,
 And straight is doom'd to bear the martyr's lot.

Torn, to wild beasts exposed, (who did not slay,
 But only mangled,) they at length were giv'n 495
 To the sword's edge, each on a sep'rate day,
 And so thro' seas of blood arrived at heav'n.

6.
 CHRODEGANG,
 Bishop of Metz;
 766.

In Brabant nobly born, the next day's saint
 Was for his learning and high virtues made
 Prime minister of France. In close restraint
 He kept his senses: the good things that fade 500

MARCH.

For him had no attractions. Charity
 Was his chief grace : he fed unnumber'd poor,
 Orphans, and widows. To the dignity
 Of bishop raised, no pride his carriage bore,

But sweet simplicity. When th' holy see 505
 By Lombards was oppress'd, King Pepin sent
 Saint Chrodegang to mediate ; but he
 No goodly fruit obtain'd by his well-meant

And zealous efforts. He composed a rule
 For his Church-canon, and *humility* 510
 Prescribed as of first practice. At length, full
 Of holy honours, to eternity

7.
 PERPETUA and
 FELICITAS, MM;
 203.

He past; eternity of bliss, which must
 Thro' tribulations be attain'd, tho' rare
 Are such as were endured by the two just 515
 And noble women whom the Church's care

Has next day honor'd, and whose names combined
Perpetual felicity denote,
 Which they enjoy. One, ere she was assign'd
 To the wild beasts, in labour taken, brought 520

A daughter forth : the other at the breast
 An infant had when the severe decree
 Went out against them. Her fond sire, distress
 At her great constancy, fell at her knee

MARCH. And begg'd she would herself and infant love, 525
 And him, who life had giv'n her ; but in vain
 Earth's best affections with the matron's strove,
 Who triumpht over death, and shame, and pain.

8.
 APOLLONIUS, &c.
 Martyrs ;
 311.
 A zealous holy anchoret we next
 Honour ; who, by the persecutors ta'en, 530
 Was by insulting heathens scorn'd and vext,
 While bound for Christ with the confining chain.

But mark the pow'r of holy meekness ! these,
 With scoffs beginning, and reproaches vile,
 Ended by sharing his indignities 535
 And cruel doom ; and many a patient smile

The flames drew from them. Apollonius pray'd,
 " Lord, manifest Thy power ; abandon not
 Those who confess Thee : let the flames be stay'd."
 Instant a hov'ring cloud with dewy blot 540

The fire extinguisht ; and the judge cried out
 With all the people, " He is God alone,
 The Christian's God," with high harmonious shout.
 At length their bodies in the sea were thrown.

9.
 GREGORY
 of Nyssa ;
 400.
 St. Basil's younger brother, and no less 545
 For sanctity renown'd and wisdom both,
 Greg'ry, at first unable to repress
 His love of art rhetorical, was loath

MARCH. From teaching it to cease. By namesake urged
 Of Nazianzum to abandon that 550
"Inglorious glory," he for ever purged
 His soul of the desire, and willing sat

'Mong humbler ranks of clergy, till at length
 Bishop of Nyssa chosen, where his fame
 Made him regarded as the central strength, 555
 'Mong Easterns, of the Cath'lic faith and name.

PACIAN,
 Bishop of Bar-
 celona; end of
 4th c.

Of Pacian, too, the same day's record tells,
 Bishop of Barcelona; famed for three
 Wise letters to Symphorian; where he dwells
 On the Novatians' dire severity, 560

And justifies the Church's dealings mild
 With sinners; asking, "Does the serpent bear
 About his poison, and are souls beguiled
 By him, and shall not Christ the loss repair?"

10.
 Forty Martyrs
 of Sebaste;
 320.

The forty martyrs next our thoughts engage, 565
 Sebaste's glory 'neath Licinius' reign;
 Brave, comely soldiers, in the flow'r of age,
 And fit for earthly combats to sustain

Or heav'nly. Bidden to the idols bow,
 They told their ruler they were Christians all, 570
 And that no torments from their holy vow
 Could them affright, or their free souls enthrall

MARCH. To Satan's power. Threats and bribes were tried
 Alike in vain : a new-invented death
 Of ling'ring cruelty at length they died, 575
 Naked exposed all night to the keen breath

Of northern wind upon a lake of ice.
 A warm bath near was placed to tempt their souls,
 And from the rig'rous trial them entice ;
 And one for this lost heav'n ;—but he who holds 580

The hearts of all men in His hand, and turns
 Whither he will, a guard converted straight,
 Who fill'd the number up.
 As one who mourns
 In lonely sorrow, till from tangling net

11. His feet are freed, our "*eyes unto the Lord* 585
 3rd Sunday in Are ever looking," till Thou, mighty God,
 Lent ; Cast in return a merciful regard
Oculi. Upon our hearts' desires, and with Thy rod

Our foes drive off : so followers of Thee,
 "As children dear," we'll prove, "and walk in love 590
 As Christ loved us, and gave Himself" to be
 On. sacrifice.
 With graces from above

12. Distinguisht high another Gregory
 GREGORY THE GREAT, We next record, *the Great* ; to whom we owe
 Bishop of Rome ; 604. Our nation's faith, our Sacramentary, 595
 And pure Church-music. Of all things below

MARCH.

A scorner, he the præter's dignity
 Sigh'd to relinquish, and to consecrate
 His life to God. As much reluctance he
 Show'd when the mitre and the pontiff-state 600

Awaited his acceptance, as is since
 Display'd of keenness. The great Councils four,
 Which then had sat the nations to convince,
 He "as the gospels" honour'd. To the poor

He was a father: captives to redeem 605
 He sold the sacred vessels,—and his love
 To heretics extended. Low esteem
 Of himself had he, and all men above

Himself would rank: and of the popes he first
 "Slave of the slaves of God" in letters all 610
 Subscribed.

13.
 EUPHRAZIA,
 V.; 410.

Euphrasia, from her childhood nursed
 In holy doctrine, early learnt from thrall

Of earthly loves to free her soul, and be
 To Christ devote. To Theodosius
 In blood allied, and this world's dignity 615
 At her feet seeing, yet solicitous

Only of heaven's honours, she withdrew
 With widow'd mother to a solitude
 In Egypt, and in time with fervour true
 The vows accepted: then with love imbued 620

MARCH. Of Jesus only, she was tried in vain
 By th' emperor, who to a courtly youth
 Would wed her, but from tears could not refrain
 At her reply.

More witnesses to truth

14. The next day offers, who on Persia's shore 625
 ACOPHIMAS, &c.,
 Persian Martyrs;
 380. Confest the Saviour, nor the fiery god
 Would worship. One, a bishop of fourscore,
 Was prostrate laid, and scourged till with his blood

His frame was cover'd. Joseph, a meek priest,
 Was beaten by ten men, (the other each 630
 Succeeding in his turn as strength decreased,)
 And seem'd one wound. A deacon last to teach

The same bold lesson dared: his hands were tied
 Beneath his knees, and to a beam on high
 His body fasten'd, and then rackt: denied 635
 The pow'r to stand or move, a company

Convey'd him back to prison. All the three
 Suffer'd together, next, fierce ling'ring pains;
 'Neath which the bishop died. More cruelty
 The others lived to feel. The priest's remains 640

Were stolen by the Christians.

15. ABRAHAM,
 Hermit;
 360. Abraham,
 Of rich and noble parents born, was wed
 Accordingly; but soon desired the Lamb
 To follow in a virgin-life, and dead

MARCH. To this world's pleasures : in a little cell 645
 He lived, in sackcloth clad, and many a heart
 With comfort fill'd who came its wants to tell.
 Ordain'd, his bishop bade the saint depart

And preach to the idolators : three years
 His zealous meekness with them bore, and then 650
 The heavenly grace descended, and with tears
 They baptism sought. At length, when other men

Were sent to be their priests, Abram return'd
 To his lone cell. God tried him by the fall
 Of a dear niece, whom long he wept and mourn'd, 655
 By fallen monk seduced : at length his call

Brought back the frail one, who became a saint.—

16.
JULIAN,
 Martyr of Cilicia,
 under
 Dioclesian.

Julian was of the senatorian class
 And in Cilicia born : the president
 Into whose hands he fell, with heart of brass, 660

Dragg'd him, a year together, thro' the towns,
 To vanquish him with shame ; but glory he
 The shame accounted ; glory, which redounds
 To his great Master, whose blest Majesty

Was thus commended, and the timid souls 665
 In faith confirm'd. When scourges, fire, and rack,
 Had fail'd, our saint into the sea which rolls
 Along Ægea's coast was thrown, in sack

MARCH. Bound up with serpents ; but th' insulted sea,
 Indignant, gave him back, and soon his frame 670
 Was by the faithful's careful piety
 Ta'en, and at last to Antioch brought, whose name,
 First nurse of *Christians*, fittest might be found
 To lodge the treasure.

17.
 PATRICK,
 Apostle of Ireland,
 464. Patrick's name is bright
 With rays reflected from each saint renown'd 675
 Thro' Ireland's isle, where sinks the western light

Beneath th' Atlantic wave. In Scotland born,
 But early captive ta'en into the land
 Destined to crown his fame, a life forlorn
 He led : but grace divine the flame soon fann'd 680

Of fervent piety. From th' holy see
 At length receiving mission, such success
 Quick follow'd, that from one extremity
 To th' other of the isle he went to bless

With baptism's flood, and faithful men ordain, 685
 Deposits of the truth. No interest
 Defiled his efforts, or ambition vain ;
 But God's and man's deep love his soul possess.

18.
 4th Sunday in
 Lent;
*Letare.** Rejoice ye with Jerusalem : be glad
 With her, all ye that love her and have mourn'd 690
 Her desolations: be with garment clad
 Of praise and beauty for her sons return'd,

* The joyful character of this Sunday's offices, so different from those of the other Sundays in Lent, is accounted for by the primitive custom of registering, at this time, those who were to

MARCH.
Latatus sum.

And other offspring near ; whose cry combined,
 " Into the Lord's house go we," fills the heart
 With sweet rejoicings, and the brooding mind 695
 Turns from its ill deserts, till grace impart

Relief and comfort. " Thou that bearest not,
 Rejoice ; break forth and cry : the desolate
 Hath many more than she whose married lot
 Abundant offspring promised." Happy state 700

Of souls whom Christ refreshes with His love !
 No more 'mong Hagar's servile children found ;
 But in the free " Jerusalem above,
 The mother of us all," their songs abound.

19.
JOSEPH.
Spouse of the
B. V. M.

Descended from old Juda's greatest kings, 705
 But more ennobled by his virtue true,
 Glorious beyond our best imaginings
 Is Joseph, who received that holy dew,

In droppings blest, whose fulness forth was pour'd
 On his meek spouse. Guardian of Christ below 710
 And nursing father, he at once adored,
 Fed, and caress'd the Saviour ; and could know

The things from this world's princes secret kept,—
 For, had they known, the Lord of glory they
 Would not have crucified. St. Joseph slept 715
 In death before his Charge divine his "day"

receive baptism at Easter. This, and the reconciliation of penitents,
 formed the *subjects* of the day,—hence called *Mothering and*
Refreshment Sunday.

MARCH.

And ministry began.

20.
CUTHBERT,
Bishop of
Lindisfarne;
687.

Near Melrose born,

And early edified by what he saw

Within that holy shrine, life's shining morn

St. Cuthbert gave to God, whose holy law 720

Was his delight. In time the prior's place

He fill'd, and labor'd hard in preachings, pray'rs,

And shrivings. Next, to Lindisfarne, by grace

Of th' abbot, moved, he shone for sev'ral years,

And then obtain'd permission to retreat 725

To hermit-life. Last, to the prelacy

Reluctant raised, with ev'ry virtue meet

The mitre he adorn'd. His relics lie

'Neath Durham's aisles, by monster Henry's self

Left undisturb'd, what time he spoil'd the shrine 730

With many others, and for wretched pelf

And wicked lust gave up his hopes divine.

21.
BENEDICT,
Abbot;
543.

In Umbria born and of a good descent,

St. Bennet early to the public schools

Of Rome for study and instruction went ; 735

But sigh'd to see how all the holy rules

Were there infringed : so, privately he left,

And to the deserts bent his lonely steps.

A monk, of grace and godliness bereft,

A poison'd cup commended to his lips ; 740

MARCH. But Bennet made, as was his wont, the sign
 Of th' holy cross, and straight the goblet broke.
 Under his teachings meek and life divine
 Many from sloth and worldliness awoke ;

Till last his fame as patriarch, in the west, 745
 Of monks was spread, and thirty thousand homes
 His order graced. Before he went to rest
 He to his monks the day foretold.

Next comes

22.
 Basil of
 Ancyra, Priest and
 Martyr ;
 362.
 Ancyra's Basil, worthy of the name ;
 Who held assemblies in defiance bold 750
 Of th' Arian bishops, but whose brightest fame
 Rests on the stirring truths the martyr told

Th' apostate Julian :—" You renounced our Lord
 When He conferr'd on you the empire : soon
 He'll take it from you, and His pow'r adored 755
 Will show you when too late : your gorgeous throne

Shall fall beneath you, and your corpse, thrust out
 Unburied, be down-trod." Julian replied ;
 " I had dismiss'd thee, Christian, but without
 Excuse thy insults and reviling pride 760

Now leave thee :—let his skin be rent
 From him each day in places sev'n, till none
 Be left him."—Last, with red-hot spikes the saint
 Was pierced.

Proconsul was Victorian

MARCH.
23.
VICTORIAN
and others,
Martyrs under
the Vandals;
484.

Of Carthage fair, and by the Arian king* 765
Who raised him favour'd much, but on the terms
Of base apostacy. No wavering
Victorian show'd, but said, " Altho' the worms

Consumed our souls, and no futurity 770
Were left in store, I would not faithless prove
To Him whose knowledge has conferr'd on me
Many a joy, and whom 'tis bliss to love."

The tyrant then, enraged, the keenest pains
Inflicted, under which the martyr died :
Four others join'd him ;—all on heav'nly plains 775
Fed by the Lamb, and God their tears hath dried.

24.
IRENÆUS.
Bishop of
Sirmium, Martyr;
304.

A second Irenæus next we name ;
Not him of Lyons, apostolic man !
But one alike in martyr's glorious fame,
Who Sirmium's church, (of land Pannonian 780

The chiefest town,) as bishop ruled.—" All men,"
Said Probus, who then govern'd, " to the gods
By law must offer." Irenæus then
Replied, " 'The law then dooms men to th' abodes

Of endless fire."—" The emp'rors' edicts too 785
Ordain it."—" But *God's* edicts bid sustain
All torments rather :—" with the rack in view
'Twas thus the saint responded, scorning pain ;

* Huneric, who succeeded his father Genseric as king of the
Vandals in the year 477.

MARCH. Nor could his mother's, wife's, and children's tears,
 When they his tortures saw, his spirit bend ; 790
 But ever in the constant sufferer's ears
 Those words of Christ did ring, that in the end

He will deny those who deny him now.
 Condemn'd to drowning, " I expected more,"
 He said, " than doom so mild. I cannot show, 795
 By thus expiring, what a mighty store

Of gifts and patience Christ vouchsafes to them
 Who suffer for Him."—" Then thy rebel-head
 Shall be cut off."—" Thanks to Thy holy name,
 O Lord," the martyr cried, and straight was led 800

^{25.}
5th Sunday in To death desired ;—death, which for ev'ry man
Lent, or
Passion Sunday. Was tasted by that King of martyrs blest
 Whose Passion now the Church's holy plan
 Begins to trace. Lord, who now offerest

Thy spotless self to cleanse our consciences 805
 That we the living God may serve ! High Priest
 Of future good, who into th' holiest place
 Enteredst once, since which to bleed have ceased

The ancient victims ! of the cov'nant new
 Great Mediator ! whom none convinced of sin, 810
 Tho' with " a devil" charged by dev'lish Jew
 For honouring Thy Father, and within

MARCH. Thy heart His love exalting ! Thou whose day
 Abram rejoiced to see ! We hail Thee, Lord,
 As Abram's God and Maker : ever " may 815
 By Thy great goodness," and Thy power adored,

Annunciation. "Thy people be preserved."—O "pour Thy grace
 Into our hearts ; that, as by angel-voice
 We 've known Thy incarnation," its blest trace
 Thy cross may leave, and so Thy rising joys 820

In season due be ours. Stupendous fact !
 A Virgin hath conceived, and borne a Son,
 And call'd His name Immanuel, (proof exact
 Of old Isaiah's words,) on David's throne

To sit for ever. "Among women blest 825
 Art thou," and "full of grace," O Mary meek !
 Whose "trouble" at the angel's words gave best
 Proof of thy fitness. Who thy praise can speak

In language equal ? Of the Holy Ghost
 Pure temple made ! by power of the High'st 830
 O'ershadow'd ! high o'er all the heavn'ly host
 Exalted ! Mother of our God and Christ !

26.
BRAULIO,
 Bishop of
 Saragossa,
 646.
 Stoop we to lower theme. Of name obscure
 Is Braulio, but acquires reflected light
 From Seville's bishop, great St. Isidore, 835
 Whom he assisted with laborious might

MARCH.

In settling discipline in Spain. We pay
 To both a tribute here, St. Isidore's
 Honour forestalling, as his festal day
 Falls in the Holy Week.*

Whoso explores 840

27.
 JOHN OF EGYPT,
 Hermit;
 394

The Book of Life will find its leaves abound
 With men of low extraction, like St. John
 Of Egypt, who a carpenter is found
 Content t' have been. Five lustres he lived on,

An earthly life, and then for aye forsook 845
 The world, and that celestial course began
 Where none excell'd him. Never food he took
 Drest by the fire, and converse held with man

But two days in the week : he taught on these
 And gave good counsels. Nigh unto his cell 850
 An hospital was built, for health and ease
 To the sick crowds. Full many a miracle

He wrought, and the high gift of prophecy
 Largely possest.

28.
 PRISCUS,
 MALCBUS, and
 ALEXANDER;
 Martyrs;
 260.

Three Christian brothers dwelt
 In Palestine, Valerian's cruelty 855
 Hearing from far ; and straight within them felt

Shame that so many martyrs won their way
 Thro' heaven's gate, while *they* yet lagg'd behind.
 Fired with the thought, they made no longer stay,
 But told the governor their heart and mind 860

* St. Isidore's day is the 4th of April, the Wednesday before
 Easter, when this festival falls in its middle place, the *eighth* of April.

MARCH. Were Christian all. The barb'rous judge with pain
 Of sev'ral tortures tried them, and at length
 By furious beasts condemn'd them to be slain.—
 Of all the martyrs whose heav'n gifted strength

29.
 JONAS, &c.
 Persian MM.;
 327.

O'ercame the world, none ever, it would seem, 865
 Torments so keen endured as Jonas meek
 And his companions. Our soft souls would deem
 Description's self a cruelty, and seek

Swift to forget the tale ; for we, alas !
 Have long forgotten that the Christian's heart 870
 Is still a martyr's, and must ever pass
 Thro' tribulations, or resign its part

In th' heav'nly kingdom. Pass we then from what
 Would sound too harrowing, but what they who knew
 Its dire endurance thought too cheap the lot 875
 Of saints to purchase, and with reverence due

30.
 Friday before
 Palm-Sunday.
 The Seven Dolors
 of the B. V. M.

The blessed *Queen* of martyrs see and love,
 Who suffer'd not in flesh, our hearts to pain
 With the narration, but whose soul above
 All souls was pierced as she beheld so plain 880

Her Son divine in torments, and the pangs
 Stamp'd, of the Crucified, upon her heart
 Of mother's sympathy, the while He hangs
 On that accursed tree. O for the art

MARCH. To share her sorrows, as we lately shared 885
 Her joy at Gabriel's tidings, when she knelt
 Low in her oratory's bow'r, and heard
 Herself God's Mother named, and inward felt

The brooding Spirit ! But our selfish souls
 Can better sympathise with joy than woe, 890
 And love mirth's tinklings better than when tolls
 The fun'ral bell, because we do not know

31.
 ACACIUS, Bishop
 of the Phrygian,
 Antioch ;
 250.

With her the fellowship of Jesus' death, nor live
 Conform'd unto His suff'rings.—One saint more
 Before the Holy Week, when all must strive 895
 Nought but those suff'rings in heart's inmost core

To keep :—Acacius, of Antioch's town,
 The Phrygian, bishop, in the cruel time
 Of Decius, was by Martian noted down
 To be examined. Of the faith sublime, 900

Confession made he ; Cæsar's dues profest,
 But boldly said that sacrifice to God
 Alone was rightly made ; then turn'd to jest
 Apollo, Neptune, Venus, and the brood

Of Roman idols : nay, Jove's banquet he 905
 Refused to share, and boldly set Christ forth
 Before the heathen judge. His constancy
 Admired by Decius' self, and prudent worth,

APRIL
1.
Palm-Sunday.

Obtain'd permission to profess the faith
Secure from harm.

Exclude we jealous now 910

All simply human names, and trace the path
By Jesus hallow'd: see the rabble bow

At his triumphant entry, and before
The Conq'ror strew their palms and olive-boughs
Because they hoped He would their race restore 915
From Roman yoke. Far other conquests shows

His advent meek, as on the ass's back
He sits, "having salvation," and yet "just,"
Coming, true Lamb for sacrifice,* our lack
Of righteousness to fill, and "to the dust 920

Of death" soon to be brought. T' His Father's will
He silent bends, when the cup might not pass
Without its dregs exhausted. Meek and still
He takes the kiss from Judas' lips of brass,

And heals the servant's ear; then, set aside 925
For foul Barabbas, hears His blood invoked
In vengeance by His race beloved, is tried
With "mocks and scourging," and with purple cloked,

2.
Monday before
Easter.

A pageant-king! our high Melchizedek!
But lo! the altar where His sacrifice 930
Must offer'd be! the wood which on His neck
He bears, as Isaac erst, whence to the skies

* Our Lord entered Jerusalem on the day appointed for bringing
in the Paschal Lamb,—Exodus xii. 3.

APRIL.

This victim's fragrant incense must ascend !

Hail, Cross ! redemption's instrument prepared !
 Christ's mercy-throne ! the sign where radiant blend 935
 All holy motives ! be thy graces shared

By all who view thee as the trophy blest

Of conq'ring Love ! the sinner's refuge thou,
 And suff'ring saint's support ! our glorious rest
 From worldly care when once before Thee bow 940

Our inmost hearts ! bright standard of our King

And badge of all His host ! to die on thee
 Is still to live and reign : each precious thing
 Of heav'n and earth is thine, thou vital Tree !

3,
 Tuesday before
 Easter.

Blest Simon of Cyrene ! Afric's son 945
 Poor and despised ! 'twas thy distinguisht grace
 To aid the Lord of glory when alone
 He sank beneath the cross, and to the place

Appointed bear it for Him. Couldst thou then
 Have seen how its atoning death would free 950
 Thy swarthy brethren, bid them rank as men
 Among their fellows, and repeal the three

Predictions dire,* how wouldst thou have embraced

The instrument of pain, and, not content
 First bearer after Him, hadst long'd to taste 955
 Its torments too !—And now they wine present

* The prophecy of Canaan's servitude is repeated three times
 in Gen. ix.

APRIL.

“Mingled with myrrh, but He received it not,”
Because ’twould have assuaged the sense so keen
O’ th’ cup His Father had decreed His lot,
And whose contents He therefore loved to drain. 960

4.
Wednesday
before Easter.

O where the angel now who late appear’d
Strength’ning in th’ agony, when drops of blood
Fell on thy weeds, Gethsemane? Each guard
Must now depart because the Father-God

Forsakes, and lets the tort’ers have their will. 965
And see! they stretch the Victim on the wood,
With nails of iron fixing! Ah, how still
He lies, blest Lamb! and only asks His blood

Be not of them required. Between the thieves
He hangs, that we among the saints might reign: 970
One robber, too, eternal life receives
From death’s great conqueror. No racking pain,

Nor mocking crowd, nor Sire’s desertion, e’er
Can quench His love, or make Him us forget,
For whom His great compassion bade Him dare 975
“The infinite descent.” O never let

From our remembrance slide His woes intense,
“The wormwood and the gall;” but, dwelling still
Within us, be our spirits’ strong defence
’Gainst wrath, impatience, and unhumbled will. 980

APRIL
5.
Thursday before
Easter.

"He loved unto the end," and made His cross
The pulpit whence His last sad lessons came
From lips all parcht with thirst, and vital loss
Of blood from head, hands, feet, salvation's stream !

"Woman, behold thy son !" O friend, "behold 985
Thy mother:"—this last faithful tribute paid
To nature's claims, His dying accents told
Love's myst'ry "finisht:" then His thorn-crown'd Head

He bow'd, and with loud eager voice exclaim'd,
"Into Thy hands, O Father, I commend 990
My spirit."—Never sage or hero famed
So died ; for none could such majestic end

6.
Good Friday. Become but Him, life's Author, and death's Cure.
And now His reign begins, where others close.
See o'er His Head, plain-written and secure, 995
His *title* ; and all nature forward shows

His *empire* ;—for her sun its light withdrew,
Earth trembled, rocks were split, and tombs their dead
Gave up, now Death was slain : the temple, too,
No longer holds entire its veil, that spread 1000

Before the inner shrine, whose myst'ries now
No more are sacred. *Lifted up, He draws*
All men unto Him : see before Him bow
The sensual and vindictive, whom no laws

APRIL. Could tame, but whom His blood renews. The thief 1005
 A saint became, the infidel confest
 "The Son of God ;" the rabble sought relief
 From conscience, and returning smote the breast.

And now His side is open'd with the spear,
 And blood and water issue from His heart, 1010
 Which sends this double fountain sweet and clear,
 Our stains to wash. O for the sacred art

To enter that recess and shrine ! the while
 Our second Adam sleeps, and from His side
 The Church is form'd, 'neath His expiring smile, 1015
 His own beloved and everlasting bride.

7.
 Easter-Eve.

So we'll embalm Him with the precious spice
 Of virtues He inspires, nor leave Him there
 Among the unremember'd dead, whose rise
 Is hopeless, but around His tomb in pray'r 1020

Watch unremitting, and our Sabbath keep
 Wim Him who from redemption's toils hath ceased,
 As from creation's labour once : His sleep
 Will soon be broken by the Paschal Feast.

END OF THE SECOND BOOK.

BOOK III.

APRIL
8.
Easter.

HAIL ! glorious morn, that saw the Saviour rise
Triumphant o'er the grave, and hell, and sin !
Hail ! glorious morn, that drew from welc'ming skies
The sons of light, to sit, and look within

The empty tomb, and tell repentant love 5
The Lord was risen.—“Christ, our Paschal Lamb,
Is offered for us,” and to “things above
Where he now sits” all who profess His Name

Are joyful call'd : for now their only life
Is hid with him in God. “Among the dead 10
Why seek the Living !” Wake we to the strife
Of faith, nor longer lie on slothful bed.

“Buried with Him in baptism, walk we now
In the new life, for th' old is crucified.”
No more shall flesh our risen spirits bow 15
'Neath its vile yoke, for “*once* to sin He died.”

9.
Easter Monday.

But who are these, so sadly journeying,
Who “trusted it was He should have redeem'd
His Isr'el,” and appear'd their Guide and King,
But now had found they had but fondly dream'd? 20

APRIL. And who the Stranger that reproves their fears,
 And ope's the Scripture to their burning hearts ;
 The Guest who in the *breaking-bread* appears,
 And ere He vanish, blessing rich imparts ?

“Abide with us,” they said, “for evening-shades 25
 Are stealing on, and day is well nigh spent ;”
 And we, dear Lord, whom night of sin invades
 And frightens, would the same request present.

“Abide with us,” and we thro' gath'ring crowds
 Will force our way, and tell Thy rising might ; 30
 And how, amid the wreathing incense-clouds
 That fume Thine altar-throne, 'tis Thy delight

Still to be “known in breaking of the Bread,”
 Which is Thyself ; who saidst, “Who eateth me,
 Ev'n he by me shall live.” Our Lord and Head ! 35
 What tho' Thy “flesh and bones” no more to see

10.
 Easter Tuesday.

Or handle now to Thy beloved be giv'n,
 Or trace the scars remaining on Thy side,
 And hands, and feet, yet still “the Bread from heav'n”
 Is never for our nourishment denied. 40

Pledge of *our* joyful resurrection this,
 “Immortal and immortalising food !”
 Seed of our incorruption ! seal of bliss
 Re-purchased for us by Thy precious blood !

APRIL. Now "death is swallow'd up in victory," 45
 Nor can the monster's fatal sting be found ;
 For life itself put on mortality,
 To spoil the spoiler with a cureless wound.

11.
 LEO THE GREAT,
 Bishop of Rome;
 461. Ere Christ ascended to his native skies,
 He bade St. Peter feed His dear-bought sheep ; 50
 And rare the pontiff who with Leo vies
 In pow'r and will alike the charge to keep.

 A constant preacher, and with equal fame
 Renown'd as scourge of heresy and vice,
 Chalcedon's council glorified in his name, 55
 That high assembly which the faith of Nice

 Confirm'd and perfected, nor left in place
 Nestorian or Eutychian error wild.—
 Attila, too, with spoil of many a race
 Enricht, and mad 'gainst Rome, became a child 60

 At sight of Leo ; who with Genseric
 Again prevail'd to stay his conq'ring hand
 From fire and slaughter, and the Bishopric
 To *plunder* only.—Earlier in the band

12.
 JULIUS,
 Bishop of Rome;
 352. Of holy popes is Julius, who received 65
 The Arian bishops' deputation, sent
 T' accuse St. Athanasius, but believed
 Them not, as with one-sided words content,

APRIL.

But heard impartial, and a council held
 At Rome, from which with conscious guilt 70
 they shrank ;

But soon their impious heresy was quell'd
 At Sardica, whose synod well might rank

As œcumenic, but, the rules of Nice
 Simply repeating, ever by its side
 Stands as appended.

'Mid the victories 75
 Gain'd by the cross o'er human pow'r and pride

SABAS, Martyr;
 352.

Among the Goths, Sabas illustrious stands ;
 Who, when his townsmen offer'd bold to swear
 There were no Christians in the place, his hands
 Against them raised ; for he would rather dare 80

The heathen's worst than silently permit
 A perjury. Those hands were soon outspread
 Upon an axle-tree, and in a pit
 Of the Musæus he was drown'd ;—thus said

“ By wood and water, baptism and the cross,” 85
 To suffer.—Varied ways, O God, shall bring

13.
 HERMENEGILD,
 Martyr in Spain;
 586.

Thy saints to conquest. Hermenegild the loss
 Of throne and life for Thee sustain'd. Made king

During his father's reign, which thus he shared,
 He left the Arian fold, and was received 90
 Into the holy Church. All unprepared
 For this, the father, who still mis-believed,

APRIL.

Raged sore against him, and at last confined
 In frightful dungeon, and a bishop sent
 To shake his constancy. His valiant mind 95
 Reproacht the prelate, who t' his father went

Back, and accused him. Straight the soldiers heard
 The cruel order, and the saintly head
 Clove with an axe.

To worthy place preferr'd
 By holy Church in class of martyr'd dead 100

14.
 TIBURTUS,
 VALERIAN, and
 MAXIMUS,
 Martyrs;
 229.

Is St. Valerian, who the husband was
 Of blest Cecilia, and her convert too,
 And with her aid soon brought Tiburtius,
 His brother, to the faith. The simple view

Of their sweet patience wrought on Maximus, 105
 Th' appointed guard, and he with them received
 The martyr's crown.

CARPUS, &c.,
 Martyrs of
 Thyatira;
 251.

Before Valerius,
 The Lesser Asia's chief, who changing lived

At Sardis, or at Thyatira, brought
 Were three the truth to seal; one scourged to death, 110
 And two with clubs were beaten, and with salt
 Their torch-inflicted wounds were rubb'd.
 Their breath

* "Paschal Time" begins at Easter and finishes on Trinity Eve.

APRIL
15.
Low Sunday, or
Quasimodo.

Soon as the new-born babes begin to draw,
The breast they seek ; and " So," St. Peter said,
" Desire the guileless milk of God's own law, 115
And with its strengthening precepts be ye fed."

And now the Church this sacred lesson reads
To the baptized: " Whate'er is born of God
O'ercomes the world by faith," nor after needs
Its solaces, or fears its wrath. " By blood, 120

As well as water, Jesus came, and still
The Spirit beareth witness" in the founts
And at the altar. Thus the heav'nly hill
The feeblest Christian with new courage mounts.

" Peace be unto you !" said the risen Lord 125
To His apostles : " As my Father me
Hath sent, so send I you : your pow'rful word
Shall sins remit and hold."

A monast'ry

PATERNUS,
Bishop of
Avranches ;
550.

In Cardiganshire St. Paternus built,
But was at Poitiers born, and rests his fame 130
On deeds in France achieved. From idol-guilt
He rescued crowds.

The savage cruelty

16.
Nineteen Martyrs
of Saragossa ;
304.

Of Dacian gave the martyr's crown next day
To nineteen Christians, by Prudentius
All celebrated ; but his beauteous verse 135
Most magnifies Engratia, who the spouse

APRIL.

Of souls by cruel torments glorified.

One of her breasts cut off, the lungs were seen
 Panting, and life remain'd. Full soon she died
 By mortifying of her wounds.

Serene

140

17.
 ANICETUS,
 Bishop of Rome,
 and Martyr;
 2nd cent.

And watchful 'mid the spread of heresies

Pope Anicete appears: he Marcion's wiles,
 And Valentine's, suspected, and their lies
 And Manichæan subtleties, with smiles

Brought in, drove from the Church.

SIMEON, Bishop
 of Ctesiphon,
 and companions;
 Martyrs;
 341.

St. Simeon,

145

Primate of Persia, was the champion bold
 Of all the faithful there, and led them on,
 In crowds immense, to martyr's honours. Told

If once he would the glorious sun adore

To show compliance and King Sapor please, 150
 It should suffice for life, and never more
 The same request be urged, but dignities

And riches pour'd upon him, he replied,

"That sun its glories hid at its Lord's death,
 And men's Creator's: once for sin He died, 155
 And rose, and triumpht: let my latest breath

Confess *His* praise."

STEPHEN,
 Abbot of Cîteaux;
 1134.

St. Stephen Harding, too,

This day commem'rates, in our England born,
 Third Abbot of Cistercians. He his view
 Fixt simply on God's glory, and thought scorn 160

APRIL.

That the religious should with pompous shrines
 Their houses recommend : in spirit poor,
 He soon the world offended, which inclines
 To "gay religions" only : at his door

No more provisions enter'd, and in want 165
 Extreme the sacred body pined ; but soon
 Comfort obtain'd for all their woes, and scant
 Allowance, when their house received the boon

18.
 APOLLONIUS,
 the Apologist,
 Martyr;
 186.

Of great St. Bernard, who with thirty more
 Of lineage good the order join'd. Thirteen 170
 Abbeys St. Stephen lived to found.

To lore
 Of earthly wisdom some have ever been

Who add the Christian : one of such was proved
 The next day's saint. By his own slave accused,
 And bidden, as he life and fortune loved, 175
 Renounce the faith, he constantly refused.

The senate then a full account required
 Of his religion, and the martyr spoke
 A learn'd *apology*, with genius fired,
 Not extant now our homage to provoke, 180

But highly praised by Jerom.

19.
 ALFHEGE,
 Archbishop of
 Canterbury,
 and Martyr;
 1012.

Alphege, born
 Of good and noble lineage, while yet young
 The world renounced ; nor could his soul be torn
 From its resolve. Abbot of Bath ere long

H

APRIL. Was he appointed, and reform'd its loose 185
 And lukewarm ways. Full soon to Winton's seat
 He mounted ; next, in spite of each excuse
 Prompted by humble fear, was forced, as meet,

The primacy to fill. Against the Danes
 He nobly stood, and offer'd them his life 190
 In ransom for his flock and citizens.
 By judgment from above, a plague was rife

Among the hostile force, the while our saint
 Sore-bruised in dungeon lay ; but, by his pray'rs
 Recover'd, they of ransom spake. Complaint 195
 He made of country waste, and firm declares

He will not have, thus squander'd upon him,
 The poor's inheritance. At last their rage
 To butch'ry gave him up.

Amid the dim
 And doubtful light that thro' each early age 200

20.
 SERF, or
 SERVANUS,
 1st Bishop of
 Orkney;
 5th cent.

Rests upon Scotia, we the form discern
 Of good Servanus, who the distant isles
 Of Orkney brought Christ's sacred truths to learn.
 His work was blest by the approving smiles

Of St. Palladius.

21.
 Two
 ANASTASIUSES,
 Patriarchs of
 Antioch:
 598 to 610.

Many saints next day 205
 Call for our homage : Anastasius,
 Patriarch of Antioch, who had pow'r to stay
 Affliction's torrent, but was vigorous

APRIL. Against Justinian's error.* He gave place
T' another of the name, by Jewish rage 210
Who was in faction kill'd. Of British race
BEUNO, Abbot in
Harnborough; Was Beuno, and in seventh Christian age
7th cent.

Was abbot in Caernarvon :—but all these,
And others, yield to Anselm, who was born
Of noble parents, and a Piedmontese,

215

But call'd by God our England to adorn

With an undying lustre. Deeply read
In hearts of men, with gentle force he charm'd,
But firmly stood for truth, and ne'er betray'd
The Church's rights : a scholar, wholly arm'd 220

With metaphysic weapons, he excell'd
All since the saint of Hippo ; but his praise
Is chiefly for the noble course he held
'Gainst tyrant Rufus, who with crooked ways

The Church would plunder and o'erawe, "nor thought 225
Himself monarch complete till in the crown
The mitre he should melt;" example taught
To a long line of princes of renown.

* "He had an extraordinary talent," says Butler, "in comforting the afflicted. He vigorously opposed the heresy which the Emperor Justinian maintained in his dotage, that the body of Christ during His mortal life was not liable to corruption and pain."

APRIL.
22.
SOTER,
Bishop of Rome,
and Martyr;
177.

And too well learnt: O for an Anselm now!—

When Anicete, whose name, recorded late, 230

Our verse adorn'd, to death was forced to bow,

Soter succeeded, but to no long date

His rule extended: yet a name he left

For sweet discourse renown'd, and father's love,

And liberal alms. Tow'rd Corinth's church, bereft 235

Of other aid, he felt his pity move,

And sent supply, with letter worthy found

To be at th' Eucharistic service read

With Clement's. He the sentiments unsound

Strongly opposed by bold Montanus spread. 240

23.
GEORGE,
Martyr;
beginning of
4th cent.

"God and St. George!" was merry England's cry

In days of faith, before the lust of gold

Had eaten into hearts and dimm'd each eye,

And stain'd the land with curses manifold.

"God and St. George" must Winton's lord unite 245

In counsel grave, when our Victoria ties

Round knee of some Whig peer the Garter bright

The while both peer and prelate scorn as lies

Whate'er the Church of blest St. George hath told,

And haply with the Arian George confound 250

Our glorious champion; who his name enroll'd

In many a nation sees, thro' earth renown'd.

APRIL.

The Greeks first praised him as "The Martyr Great,"
 And many a temple in his honour rear'd :
 Then Georgia, Genoa, and in time more late 255
 But not less zealous, our fair England heard

His martyr-fame, and him their patron chose.—
 In Dioclesian's armies listed, soon
 As he began to head the Saviour's foes
 George ceased to serve him, and the martyr's boon 260

Quickly obtain'd.

24.
 MELLITUS.
 Archbishop of
 Canterbury;
 624.

Mellitus was from Rome
 By Greg'ry sent, head of a second band
 Of missionaries, who left their southern home
 To aid St. Austin in our Saxon land.

The first of London's bishops, he baptized 265
 Sebert, th' East Saxon king ; whose children three
 After their father's death apostatized
 From place of catechumens. When they see

Mellitus at the altar, th' Eucharist
 Giving the people, they of him demand 270
 "That fine white bread," (so they the Host exprest)
 "Our father was accusom'd from thy hand

To take and eat." "First be baptized," he said;
 And, they refusing, he God's Bread denied,
 And was from Essex' kingdom banished.— 275
 Last he the chief see held, and in it died.

APRIL.
25.
MARK,
Evangelist;
68.

St. Mark, as Epiphanius tells, was one
Of those who walkt no more with Christ, because
He told them that to live by Him, God's Son,
They first His flesh must eat. St. Mark withdraws 280

At this, but after Easter was brought back
By Peter's zeal and love. Interpreter
To the apostle was he, and no lack
Of faith or courage show'd: a missionaryer

To Egypt sent, great Alexandria's see 285
He fill'd, and wond'rous miracles perform'd;
By which, and by his pray'rs, idolatry
Was wounded, and the demons' temples storm'd

And overthrown. The Eucharistic rite
While off'ring, he was seized: his feet they bound, 290
And dragg'd his body from the morn till night,
Leaving his blood and flesh upon the ground.

Next day his torments were renew'd, and proved
Too strong for life.

26.
CLETUS and
MARCELLINUS,
Bishops of Rome;
and Martyrs;
89 and 296.

St. Cletus was the third
Bishop of Rome, and thus but once removed 295
From him who "Feed my sheep" from Jesus heard.

Twelve years he sat, and is a martyr styled
In th' Eucharistic canon.—Cent'ries two
After his death, in stormy times and wild
Sat Marcellinus, and like honour due 300

APRIL. The self-same day receives, altho' not death
 Suff'ring, but only persecutions dire,
 To vindicate the honours of the faith
 'Gainst demon-spite and Dioclesian's sire.

27.
 ANTHIMUS, &c.,
 Martyrs, of
 Nicomedia;
 303. This emp'ror was at Antioch offering 305
 To idol-powers, and, as the custom was,
 The victims' entrails was considering
 For insight of the future ; but the cross

Some Christians on their foreheads made, and this
 Disturb'd the sacrifices, and confounded sore 310
 The soothsayers ; who could no longer guess
 At th' hidden truth, nor cheat the people more.

'Twas thus induced that Diocles began
 A persecutor's life ; and Anthimus,
 Then Nicomedia's bishop, blameless man ! 315
 His early victim was ; and numerous

Were those who with him shared the martyr's crown,
 Deacons and priests, and to their families
 All who belong'd.

28.
 VITALIS,
 Martyr;
 62. Vitalis' fair renown
 Chief in Ravenna rests—and time defies— 320

Where he, in Nero's persecution, sped
 To th' heav'nly bliss. Seeing a Christian fear
 To lose, for faith, beneath the axe his head,
 And stand aghast at death, and ev'n appear

APRIL

Ready to yield, Vitalis was much moved ; 325
 Th' honour of God rememb'ring, which by sin
 So foul would be insulted, and a soul beloved
 Likely to sink in hell. With counsel keen

And urgent he attackt the recreant,
 And was successful. Then the body he 330
 Carried to burial. Learning what the saint
 Had done, Paulinus, who the dignity

Of judge there held, to torments him condemn'd,
 And then to live interment. His Acts say,
 Valeria his widow soon was named 335
 Among the martyrs too; on festal day

Refusing to conform to th' idol rite.—

29.
 ROBERT,
 Founder of the
 Cistercians ;
 1110.

Robert, with twenty more, reclaim'd Citeaux,
 A forest wild, whose gloom might well affright
 Less zealous men. To these we grateful owe 340

The Order of Cistercians, and its most
 Austere Reform, La Trappe. Four hours each night
 For sleep their rules allow, and four engrosst
 In choral praise : four from the dawning light

In work they spend, and then till Nones they read. 345
 Their diet is the field's plain herb and root.

HUGH,
 Abbot of Cluni;
 1100.

St. Hugh of Cluni, too, this day the meed
 Of heav'nly bliss attain'd ; a princely shoot

APRIL. From the Burgundian stock. The world he view'd
 A stormy sea, by men's wild passions wrought, 350
 Concealing rocks and caves beneath its flood.
 Our conq'ror, for each monk that should be brought

From Cluni into England, pounds fivescore
 Offer'd; but Hugh replied, "That sum *I'll* give
 For each *good* monk your Highness will procure." 355
 So rare he deem'd as true recluse to live.

30.
 MAXIMUS,
 Martyr;
 251.

St. Maximus a merchant was, and when
 Askt his condition answer'd, "I am free
 By birth, but yet Christ's slave." The ruler then
 Inform'd him of the law, idolatry 360

Enjoining, and severe administer'd
 The bastinado when the saint denied
 T' obey: this torment he to call was heard
 "An unction sweet." With rack he next was tried,

And last to death was stoned.

MAY.
 1.
 PHILIP and
 JAMES,
 Apostles.

Of Galilee 365
 St. Philip was, and by our Saviour call'd,
 To follow Him, next in His ministry
 To Andrew and to Simon: tho' enthrall'd

In married state, he in the holy law
 Continual mused, and prophets, and so "found 370
 Him of whom they and Moses wrote" to draw
 Men to Him when the time complete came round.

MAY.

"Show us the Father" was his eager cry,
 And straight from Christ reproof, tho' gentle, drew :
 "So long a time, O Philip, now have I 375
 Been with you all, by thee unknown? he who

Hath seen me hath the Father seen."—This saint
 In the two Phrygias preacht, and fell asleep
 At Hierapolis.—So small a taint
 Could nature on St. James's spirit keep 380

That he from all received of *Just* the name,
 And was allow'd to enter th' Holiest place.
 No flesh he ate except the Paschal Lamb :
 A Nazarite, and close allied in race

To Jesus' self, him the apostles made 385
 Jerus'lem's bishop, and a plate of gold
 He wore for mitre. The great debt he paid
 In cruel way,—from battlements was roll'd

Christ for confessing, but had vigour left
 To pray for his destroyers : show'rs of stones 390
 The rabble pour'd : his head a fuller cleft.
 Beside the temple buried were his bones.

2.
 ATHANASIUS,
 Patriarch of
 Alexandria, and
 Doctor of the
 Church;
 373.

What name is next th' apostles' fit to come
 Like Athanasius, the glorious light
 Of churchmen and the faith ! "in praising whom," 395
 Said Nazianzen, "I the praise indite

MAY. Of virtue's self." Not the whole world in arms
 Could turn him from his course, for he in th' heart
 Of Jesus studied, and the heavn'ly charms
 Of truth-eternal tasted ; whence his art 400

Of meekness with unconquer'd courage join'd.
 O for more space to sound his praise, and tell
 His life, nor thus reluctant leave behind
 The echo faint of name beloved so well.

3. No sooner had the Church obtain'd her peace 405
 Discovery of the Holy Cross, 326.
 Than Constantine, God's instrument to give
 That blessing so desired, each holy place
 To visit long'd where He thro' whom we live

For us had suffer'd. In Jerusalem
 A Church to build he purposed soon ; and she 410
 Who bare the emp'ror, Helena by name,
 Tho' far in years advanced, no dignity

Could find so great as that of pilgrim meek
 To that blest land. Soon as she there arrived
 The saving cross she straight began to seek ; 415
 But heathen spite and cunning had contrived

T' oblit'rate all remembrance of the place,
 And Venus' temple on the spot to build.
 When this was overturn'd, and ev'ry trace
 Of rites profane removed, with ardour fill'd 420

MAY. Her train to dig began, and found at length
 Three crosses, of which one a lady cured
 Of ling'ring illness, and to sudden strength
 Her languid frame by sacred touch restored.

Nought but that cross, and Him who hung thereon, 425
 St. Paul resolved to know ; but, *knowing this*,
 St. Austin says, *knew all things* : manger, throne,
 And Spirit,—all does th' holy Cross comprise.

4.
 MONICA,
 Mother of
 St. Augustine;
 387.

Nor small the thanks to Monica we owe,
 Who *bore* St. Austin, not in flesh alone, 430
 But in the Lord, and left him here below
 Doctor of grace, and of the Mercy-throne

Prime advocate. She pray'd with ceaseless tears
 For his conversion, and at length was heard ;
 Nor longer stay'd on earth, but full of years 435
 And virtues was at Ostia interr'd.

5.
 HILARY of Arles,
 Archbishop ;
 449.

Of noble birth was Hilary : but said,
 " We equal are in Christ : the chief degree
 Of nobleness is to be numbered
 Among God's servants." Raised to dignity 440

Archiepiscopal before the age
 Fixt by the canons, (such his virtue great !)
 He only grew more humble, free from rage,
 Sweet, mortified, and loving. No high state

MAY. From his rebukes exempted ; for when once 445
 A judge,—in vain admonisht by the saint
 Often in private, and enjoyn'd renounce
 Vile partiality, that glaring taint

Of justice's bench,—within the church appear'd
 In midst of sermon, instant Hilary 450
 Broke off,—“ for he who hath so frequent heard
 In vain the secret word, now publicly

To hear it is unworthy.” Then withdrew
 The judge corrupt.—Such zeal some souls lukewarm
 Provoked, who to the Pope a charge undue 455
 Against St. Hilary made : but all the harm

Which issued thence was that a holy zeal
 St. Leo show'd, and Hil'ry silent bore.
 At length the latter clomb the heav'nly hill,
 Nor fears more trials on th' eternal shore. 460

6.
 JOHN THE
 EVANGELIST
 Before the Latin
 Gate;
 96.

Th' apostles' last survivor, blest St. John,
 Was by Domitian's savage order seized,
 And quick into a caldron huge was thrown
 Of boiling oil. For Christ to suffer pleased,

The saint now hoped the martyr's crown to earn ; 465
 But God had yet t' employ him, and the force
 Of heat suspended, nor allow'd the oil to burn
 Or hurt His seryant. Nothing of remorse

MAY. The tyrant show'd, but said that magic wile
 Had saved the Christian, and him banisht straight 470
 Far in th' Ægean sea to Patmos' isle,
 Seat of blest visions made. Domitian's fate

Was near, and Nerva's milder reign succeeds :
 Then the beloved disciple left his shore
 Of exile, and the Ephesian faithful's needs 475
 Supplied again, till life's decays were o'er.

7.
 BENEDICT II.,
 Bishop of Rome;
 685. Next day the Second Benedict we praise,
 Famed for his skill in the ecstatic art
 Of holy music and the Church's lays.
 Short time he ruled, but well fulfill'd his part. 480

8.
 Apparition of
 St. MICHAEL;
 5th cent. Oft has the great archangel's form been seen,
 Fresh from th' unchanging Light in which he basks,
 What time he close inspects, with eye serene,
 Th' inferior spirits at their holy tasks.

Sometimes, 'tis said, he to our sinful race 485
 Is sent; as to Siponto's bishop erst,
 Admonishing on Gargan's mount to place
 A church, as is in chronicle rehearsed.

703. A bishop of Avranches, by visions moved,
 Another church to the archangel rear'd; 490
 And, foll'wing this, in our own isle beloved,
 St. Michael's on "the guarded mount" appear'd,

MAY. A re-foundation ;—for the older shrine,
 'Tis said, dates higher far : howe'er this be,
 May he who *stands for Isr'el*, the divine 495
 Glory exalting, and by pure humility

And meekness Satan conq'ring, ever us
*By God's "appointment succour and defend,"**
The Theologian, (so illustrious
 His sacred lore,) is Greg'ry styled, the friend 500

9.
 GREGORY
 NAZIANZEN,
 Bishop and
 Doctor of the
 Church;
 389.

Of great St. Basil. From the moment he
 Baptism received, his deadness was complete
 T' ambition, wealth, and pleasures: orat'ry
 No longer charm'd him, for beneath his feet

He trod all earthly fame, and silence loved 505
 And sweet retirement, and for good of men
 Could scarce to leave its sacred shades be moved.
 Great troubles he endured, for th' Arians then

Were dominant: but he so meekly bore
 All, that of him the Catholics complain'd 510
 As faultily indulgent. Many more
 His glories were than in our verse contain'd

Can be, but from the rest his love of song
 Well pleased we call. To the apostles' dome
 Translated, at Byzantium, and along 515
 With pomp were borne his ashes, but to Rome

* See Daniel xii. 1, and St. Jude 9, compared with 2 St. Peter, ii. 11. The signification of the Hebrew word *Michael* is, *Who is like God*?

MAY.
10.
EPIMACHUS
and ALEXANDER,
Martyrs;
350.

By the Crusaders brought.

Epimachus

And Alexander the tribunal stain'd
Of Decius, and became illustrious
Throughout the West soon after. Long detain'd 520

In hideous dungeon, they with hooks were torn,
Beaten with clubs, and last in burning lime
Consumed. Nor these alone the day adorn,
But Gordian too, who in th' apostate time

GORDIAN,
Martyr;
362.

Of Julian lost his head. His corpse was laid 525
Within a cave, where were deposited
Epimachus' remains: the Church has made
Their honours join.

Wide is the glory spread

11.
MAMERTUS,
Archbishop of
Vienne;
477.

Of good Mamertus, for Rogation-days
About this time observed, and by him first 530
Appointed. In his district, hist'ry says,
The people, long in sinful practice nurst,

Were keenly punisht by the hand of God
With wars, fires, earthquakes, and each forest-beast
In market-place seen ravening abroad. 535
The prelate's city was on fire, which ceased

When he began to pray: twice this was done,
The second time on Easter-night; and he
Order'd a three-days' supplication,
With abstinence, and solemn litany, 540

MAY. And sad procession, annual in his see.
 In time the practice spread, and thro' the west
 Now universal is; albeit that we
 Proud English neither rend the heart nor vest.

12.
FLAVIA
DOMITILLA,
Virgin. &c.,
Martyrs under
Trajan.

St. Flavia Domitilla was grand-niece
Of th' Emperor Domitian, and for faith
Banisht by him to Pontia : her release
Was long deferr'd, but the fair exile's path

545

Of Christian suff'ring by two chamberlains
Was shared and cheer'd ; who, tho' her servants 550
here,
Now equal with her reign. Back to the plains
Of Terracina brought, the martyrs there

Suffer'd unequal deaths ; the maid the fire,
And they beheading. The old church in Rome,
Which held their relics in its ruin'd choir, 555
Baronius restored with ample dome.

PANCRAS,
Martyr;
304.

St. Pancras not three lustræ had fulfill'd,
When, for the faith he gloriously confest
To Dioclesian, he was patient kill'd,
And gave his name to where his ashes rest. 560

13. **SERVATUS**,
Bishop of
Tongres;
384

Servatus gave great Athanasius,
During his banishment, all friendly aid ;
His holy cause defending strenuous,
And heal'd the wounds by Arian baseness made.

MAY. Of Christian sufferings so pierced his soul
 That he our Lord before the judge confest, 590
 And like endured : the people, all control
 Spurning, and at the bloody sight distrest,

“ Great is the Christians’ God ! ” exclaim’d. His head
 Boniface lost at length, and his remains
 To Rome were taken ; and his Aglæe laid 595
 The relics loved beneath the Latian plains,

And o’er them rear’d a church and monument ;
 Then, from the world withdrawn, began a course
 Holy and watchful, sad and penitent,
 Till her changed spirit sought its heav’nly source. 600

15.
 PETER,
 ANDREW, &c.,
 Martyrs ;
 250.

Peter of Lampsacus, when bidden call
 On Venus with the rites of sacrifice,
 Said, “ How adore a woman base, who all
 Human example of impurities 605

Shameless outwent ? ” For this outstretcht on wheel,—
 His bones were broken, and his head struck off.
 Three other Christians next, burning with zeal,
 Were brought before the judge ; and one with rough

And loud impatience answer’d, but the rest
 Meekly : the first had almost toucht the crown 610
 But then gave way, and instant was possest
 By Satan, and his head beat frequent down

MAY. Lord, 'tis enough : Thy parting blessing giv'n,
 Warm in our hearts preserved, shall save us still :
 Our only hope, to dwell with Thee in heav'n,—
 Our only task, to do Thy holy will. 640

13.
 VENANTIUS, Glorious and bold ; and, many torments o'er,
 Martyr; In Decius' persecution lost his head
 250. At Camerino, near Ancona's shore.

THEODOTUS Fifty years after, the Seven Virgins old, 645
 and the Seven Euphrasia, Julitta, and the rest,
 Virgins, M.M.; Found for the faith invincible and bold,
 303. Thro' shame and pain their suff'ring Lord confest.

Naked in chariots placed, and drawn along
 With idols, whom the heathen once a year 650
 Were wont to wash, they to the impious throng
 Of proud Ancyra were exposed, and there

Drown'd in the pool. Theodotus contrives
 With labour vast their bodies to redeem ;
 A vintner, but of those whose virtue strives 655
 And shines more brightly 'mid the 'whelming stream

Of circumstance. When heathen malice bade
 All food should to the idols be exposed,
 And Christians starve or eat, this martyr fed
 The faithful, and large quantities enclosed 660

MAY. Of corn and wine, which ever undefiled
 By idol-rites he kept, and cheaply sold.
 At last, to the tribunals brought, he smiled
 At th' instruments of torture, and extoll'd

Christ's greatness, worthy of more sacrifice 665
 Than we can make, His off'ring to repay.
 The martyr then, the direst cruelties
 First suff'ring, join'd His Lord in heav'nly day.

19.
 DUNSTAN,
 Archbishop of
 Canterbury;
 960.

In Glastonbury born, and early taught
 By Irish monks, Dunstan is known to fame 670
 Alike with human lore and heav'nly fraught,
 And firm pursuing ev'ry noble aim.

A hermit-life he led, till Athelstan,
 Knowing his sanctity, to th' abbacy
 Of Glastonbury call'd him as the man 675
 Best fitted. Edwy, to the dignity

Of king succeeding, by the saint reprov'd,
 Ruin'd the abbeys, and the monks with strong
 Hand persecuted, and in spite removed
 Dunstan from England; but, not absent long, 680

He came again 'neath Edgar's better reign,
 And held the primacy.—Three times he preacht
 On an Ascension-day, nor might remain
 Three days beyond on earth, but glory reacht.

- MAY. Ethelbert, yet a child, gave pregnant proof 685
 20. Of sanctity, from play stealing to pray'r.
 ETHELBERT, King of the East Angles, Martyr; 793.
 Succeeding young to th' kingdom, he aloof
 From all injustice kept, example rare
- Of kingly virtue ! Now advanced in life,
 And wishing for his kingdom's sake an heir, 690
 He went to Mercia's prince, to seek as wife
 His child Alfreda, of whom often fair
- Report had reacht him. Entertainment kind
 He met, but thro' the queen's contrivance foul
 Was murdered soon, that Mercia might be join'd 695
 With the East-Angles' kingdom. His pure soul
- Had scarcely enter'd heav'n when God was pleased
 By miracles to glorify on earth
 His virgin-body.
21. Hospice never ceased
 HOSPITIUS, Hermit in Provence; 681.
 To mortify himself with painful dearth 700
- Of what the flesh desires ; on bread and dates
 Living, and girded with an iron chain
 Concupiscence to vanquish. Hist'ry states
 That he was long contented to remain
22. Shut up 'mid ruins of an ancient tow'r.— 705
 CASTUS and AEMILIUS, Martyrs;
 Aemilius and Castus had first fail'd
 'Neath persecution, but soon knew the pow'r
 Of keen remorse, and firm again they held

MAY. Their high profession, and o'ercame the fire.
 "They fell like Peter," great St. Austin says, 710
 "On their own strength presuming."

 When the ire
 Of Maximin in persecution's blaze

23.
BASILISCUS,
Bishop of
Comana,
Martyr;
312.
Enwrapt the fold, St. Basiliscus ceased
 In Nicomedia from mortal care.
 After his death his spirit to a priest 715
 Appear'd, and lodging told him to prepare

 "For brother John." This was St. Chrysostom,
 Who saw him too, and learnt that they should be
 Full soon together in one narrow home
 Afforded by St. Bas'lik's presby'try. 720

23.
DESIDERIUS,
Bishop of
Langres,
Martyr;
411.
Still "the good Shepherd for the sheep his life
 Giveth," and Desiderius such hath proved,
 For when the pagans with barbarian strife
 Ravaged his part of Gaul, the man beloved

(Like Paris' late archbishop) went to meet 725
 The bloody ruffians, and a victim fell
 His flock to save.

JULIA,
V. M.;
5th c.
 On the same day we greet
 The name of Julia; of whom records tell

 That she, at Carthage' capture, for a slave
 Was sold to pagan merchant; who, to Gaul 730
 Carrying her from th' east o'er th' ocean-wave,
 At length reacht Corsica while festival

MAY. Of idols there was kept. The Christian maid
 Was left at distance, but 'gainst rites so foul
 Made protest loud. The governor then said, 735
 "Who is this woman, whose rebellious soul

Insults the gods?" Her master answer'd, "She
 A Christian is, but diligent and good ;
 Nor can I turn from her divinity
 The constant maid." The ruler then pursued 740

His object by the offer of four slaves,
 Females, the best he had, in barter fair
 For Julia ; but t' himself her master saves
 His valued prize ;—yet soon his treasure rare

He lost by drunkenness ; for while he lay 745
 Senseless and snoring, the base governor
 Offer'd, her freedom to procure that day
 If she would sacrifice. "My Saviour,"

Replied the maid, "I serve ; and I desire
 No better freedom." Then, in furious mood, 750
 He sentence past that she should so expire
 As had that Lord, suspended on the rood."

24.
 DONATIAN and
 EUGATIAN
 Martyrs ;
 287.

Two noble brothers next we glad record,
 Who 'neath Maximian on the rack were hung,
 And had their heads with lances for their Lord 755
 Pierced, and cut off.

The same day's saints among

MAY.
VINCENT OF
LERINS;
450.

Vincent of Lerins comes, who refuge took
From martial storms in safe religion's port,
And well repaid her by his little book,
Commonitory call'd, to which resort 760

Those who would heresy o'erturn, and teach
What ev'ry where and always and by all
The faithful *is believed*. This each
As Catholic accounting cannot fall

In wilful error's gulph.

Calixtus dead, 765

25.
URBAN,
Bishop of Rome,
and Martyr;
230.

St. Urban to the Roman chair succeeds
'Neath Alexander's reign; when many bled
For Christ thro' zeal of crowds whom passion leads,

Tho' th' emp'ror's self was kind. St. Urban's said
The martyrs t' have encouraged, and from rites 770
Of idol-worship many a convert made.
Blest work of God! than which none more delights

26.
AUGUSTINE,
Apostle of the
Anglo Saxon;
604.

His faithful servants; such as Augustine,
Apostle of our Anglo-Saxon race,
Who long had been enthral'd with chains of sin 775
When he, the minister of heav'nly grace,

With little troop among the nation came
And gain'd its heart. A silver cross they bore,
And Christ's blest image; each celestial name
In solemn litany invoking o'er. 780

MAY. Soon royal Ethelbert his guilt effaced
 In baptism's flood, and foster-father proved
 To holy Church,* while Augustine was placed
 The earliest primate of our land beloved.

27.
Whit Sunday. "Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised 785
 In His own city, on His holy hill,
 Joy of the earth entire ; whose kings, amazed
 At all His wonders, tremble and are still."

God ! at Thy presence Sina shook of old,
 And now Mount Sion feels Thee ; and 'tis seen 790
 How Thou our King, with graces manifold,
 Go'st in the sactuary. Where Thou hast been

'Tis wonder all.—Three times a year of old
 All Isr'el's males appear'd before the Lord
 Where He had chosen ; and now Christians hold 795
 Three greatest feasts, and feed from th' heav'nly board,

And in their King rejoice. Of these the last
 Succeeds the ancient Pentecost ; for then
 It was that Christ's disciples, cordial placed
 In keen expectancy, were made new men 800

* *Foster-fathers* and *nurses* are the proper translation in Isaiah xlix. 23. These were, and are, in the east, *the slaves of the family* ; and accordingly it is next said : "They shall bow down to thee with face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet." Such was the *prophetic* theory of the alliance of Church and State. The *modern* one is directly contrary, and would have the Church lick up the dust under the feet of sovereigns.

M. v. By the descending Spirit ; who fulfill'd
 Those words of Jesus, that the Father soon
28.
Whit-Monday. Would give another Paraclete, each child
 Of heav'nly truth to bless with lasting boon.

No longer orphans now, but with Christ's life 805
 Present in ev'ry soul we live anew ;
 Nor care for tribulation's wearing strife
 While heav'nly things our constant spirits view.

'Tis thus that God repairs old Babel's loss,
 And " of one language and one speech" again 810
 Makes " all the earth," and rears the standard-cross
 On the sole " tow'r and city" among men

Whose top may reach to heav'n.—" God, who didst teach
 Thy faithful people with the Spirit's light"
 At this great time of blessing ! grant that each 815
 Who now implores it of Thee " may a right

29.
Whit-Tuesday. " Judgment in all things have, and evermore
 Joy in His holy comfort." May Thy priests
 His special fulness prove, the saints' own lore
 And science treasuring, and at the feasts 820

Of heav'nly wisdom wise dispensers sit ;
 Going before the sheep, and with bland tone
 Wiling them on, and leading to Thy feet.—
 Thus, gracious Father ! it shall clear be known

MAY. That Thou in us dost dwell, and we in 'Thee, 825
 Because Thou'st giv'n us of Thy Holy Breath :
Opening Thy hand, and filling plenteously
 All souls that live to Thee, and to the death

Of Jesus are conform'd.—The festal strain
 Is o'er, the tongues of flame no more resound ; 830
 But still *our mouths Thy praises shall retain,*
 " And let all flesh Thy Name for ever sound !"

30.
 FELIX,
 Bishop of Rome
 and Martyr;
 274.

By Birth a Roman, one whose *happy* name
 His honour well expresses, to the rule
 Of Jesus' household amid tempests came, 835
 Raised from the infernal pit by wicked Paul,

Samosata's reproach ; who taught our Lord
 Was merely man. Two previous councils held
 In vain against him, by a third deposed
 He still the bishop's house possest, and swell'd 840

With pride and venom. Felix then appeal'd
 T' Aurelius, who, tho' heathen emperor,
 Decreed that Paul should his possession yield.—
 'Twas then himself a learn'd interpreter

On the Incarnation's mysteries profound 845
 St. Felix show'd ; nor less his zeal appear'd
 In practice, for when troubles 'whelm'd him round
 No toil he spared, nor persecution fear'd.

MAY.
31.
PETRONILLA,
Virgin;
1st cent.

This month concludes with Petronilla's praise ;
A holy virgin, like a beauteous star 850
Shining, 'mid th' earliest saints, in loving ways
Who lived, less careful than we moderns are

Long books to write, for they "knew how to die,"
St. Cyprian says, "but knew not to dispute."
Hence small the knowledge of her history 855
By us possess. St. Peter's daughter thought,

And from him named, at least his child in grace,
At Rome she flourisht, and on th' Ardean way
Was buried, where her church long form'd a place
At which the city publicly to pray 860

JUNE.
1.
NICOMEDR,
Priest and
Martyr;
90.

Assembled.
Nicomede, a holy priest
At Rome, to martyrs in their conflicts aid
Careful afforded, and for this was seized
Under Domitian. The honour paid

To idols he withheld, and soon to death 865
With clubs was beaten.

JUSTIN,
Martyr,
167.

Justin the same day
Is honour'd by the Greeks, of Christ's pure faith
A champion learn'd and valiant. Every way

Of earthly wisdom he in vain had tried ;
At last by pray'r the gate of heav'nly life 870
Was open'd to him, and he left the pride
Of false philosophy, and jealous strife

JUNE.

Of rival schools. What drew him to Christ's faith
 Was th' holy lives of Christians, and the sight
 Of weak and timid maidens daring death 875
 Rather than sin. His judgment, clear and bright,

With many a valued work the Church has stored,
 And chief among them his *Apologies*
 Are honour'd, which a statement true afford
 Of Christian faith and morals:—last, he dies 880

For what his books had own'd.

2.
 POTHINUS,
 Bishop;
 BLANDINA,
 and other
 Martyrs of
 Lyons;
 177.

A kind of rest
 The Church enjoy'd 'neath Mark Aurelius,
 But oft disturb'd, as Irenæus blest
 Witnesses in his letter, telling us

Of those whose blood the Rhone's blue waters stain'd. 885
 Long and severe their torments were, but they
 O'ercame by Jesus' blood, and so obtain'd
 The martyr's crown. Their very ashes lay

Inciting to new fury; for men raged
 At sight of these, nor suffer'd them to be 890
 Buried in peace. "And is your God engaged,"
 They scoffing askt, "to give vitality

Again to these? but we defy his power."—
 But He, our Lord, whose glorious rising-feast
 Began this book, will at the judgment hour 895
 Gather His saints, who Him have constant pleased.

END OF THE THIRD BOOK.

BOOK IV.

JUNE.
3.
Trinity Sunday.

“ IN the beginning God the heav’n and earth
Created, and His Spirit on the face
Moved of the waters, and His Word gave birth
To light, and all that is.” In time t’ abase

Himself that Word began, and by His own 5
Creature and servant was content to be
In Jordan washt ;—but hark ! in awful tone
The Father speaks from heaven ; nor is He,

The Spirit, wanting, but with dove-like ray
O’er Jesus hovers. To this Triad blest 10
The mystic six-wing’d creatures, who nor day
Nor night from their beloved employment rest,

Cry “ Holy, Holy, Holy ! ”—Holy Sire,
And Holy Son, and Holy Ghost ! Ye who
High “ record bear ” ’mid that immortal choir, 15
Help us on earth to pay our homage too ;—

A homage easy now, compared with what
The martyrs gave, what time the idols foul
With the true God competed, and the lot
Of faithful men, who would not lose their soul, 20

JUNE.
QUIRINUS,
Bishop and
Martyr;
304.

Was death and torture. This Quirinus show'd,
A bishop in Pannonia ; who before
The governor was brought, and 'mid a flood
Of blows was offer'd, if he would adore

Jupiter, to be made his priest. But "I," 25
He answered, "to the living God am now
Sacrifice paying, while for Him I lie
Thus beaten." Then in chains with progress slow

Down Danube's course convey'd, at last the stream
Received him ; but its waters would not drown, 30
But let him preach, till he began to deem
Himself deprived of martyr's heav'nly crown,

And pray'd that he might sink ; and "by his prayers,"
His Acts remark, "a wat'ry death scarce found."—
At Crediton, 'mid Devonshire's mild airs, 35
St. Boniface was born, and all around

5.
BONIFACE,
Archbishop of
Mentz, Apostle of
Germany, and
Martyr;
755.

Edified by his virtues. Thirsting sore
For souls' salvation, and bewailing men
Who lay in darkness, he began t' implore
Heav'n's blessing first, and into Friezland then 40

Past over, th' infidels to teach. His first
Mission was unsuccessful, but he tried
Again, and by the pope his zeal was nursed,
And many a convert made. At last he died

K

JUNE.

In midst of duty, while on Whitsun Eve 45
 The Sacrament of Confirmation he
 Was minist'ring. His priests with him receive
 The stroke from savage pagan company,

And thus the crown obtain.

So fast the flock
 Of Christ increased, that the apostles chose 50
 Sev'n deacons: second among these enroll'd
 Is Philip's name. After the sanguine close

6
 PHILIP
 the Deacon;
 1st cent.

Of Stephen's short career, "Philip went down
 And preacht to the Samaritans," who heard
 And saw the signs and wonders which were shown 55
 By God thro' him, but fickle soon preferr'd

Th' impostor Simon. Then an angel said
 To Philip, "Tow'rd the south, to Gaza, go."
 He went, and saw the eunuch as he read
 Isaiah's page, nor could the meaning know 60

"Except some man should guide." Then Philip spake,
 From "the same Scripture," of the Saviour blest,
 And straight baptized him in the way-side lake;
 Nor staid, to be with zealous thanks address,

But, by the Spirit caught, was instant found 65
 Up at Azotus, whence he preaching went,
 Thro' th' other towns and villages around,
 T' his native Cæsarea. Here the saint

JUNE.

Many years after was the host of Paul,
 And with four daughters blest, prophetic maids!— 70
 “The bread that I will give for life of all
 Is my own flesh!” Vanish, ye empty shades,

7.
Corpus Christi.

The Paschal Lamb, the Manna, and the bread
 Of just Elias, and Melchizedek
 Off’ring his bread and wine; and altars spread 75
 With many a bleeding victim, and the neck

Of meekest Isaac ’neath his pile opprest;
 The loaves that on the uncorrupted board
 Were shown, with incense cover’d! Her own feast,
 Lo! Wisdom’s self hath spread, and from her herd 80

The noblest chosen: she “her house hath built,
 Hath hewn her pillars sev’n, hath mixt her wine,
 Hath sent her maidens forth,” from folly’s guilt
 To turn our hung’ring race, and to incline

Our hearts to the true Banquet. Lord, thy flesh 85
 “Is meat indeed, thy blood indeed is drink;”
 A fountain ever springing sweet and fresh,
 A viand “all that we can ask or think”

Boundless surpassing!

8.
 MAXIMIN,
 1st Archbishop of
 Aix in Provence;
 1st cent.
 MEDARD and
 GODARD,
 Bishops of
 Noyon & Rouen;
 6th cent.

This faith Maximin
 In Provence planted, and by some is said 90
 One of the first disciples to have been.—
 Medard and Godard ’mong the holy dead

JUNE.
WILLIAM,
Archbishop of
York;
1154.

On the same day are honour'd, and our York
St. William furnishes : all these to God
Themselves devoted in His holy work 95
Of guiding souls along the heav'nly road.

9.
PRIMUS and
FELICIANUS,
Martyrs;
286.

Two brothers next we praise, who lived in Rome,
Given to all good works, and to the poor
Parting their worldly goods. Their fav'rite home
Was with the martyrs blest, whose dungeon-doors 100

They frequent enter'd, and to scaffolds came,
Assisting them to die. Grown old in these
Heroic practices, at last their fame
For sanctity was such that nought could please

The heathen but their death.

VINCENT,
Deacon and
Martyr;
3rd cent.

The faith in Gaul 105
St. Vincent early to those heathens preach't,
And found the usual recompense, by all
The martyrs shared : his body, tightly stretch't,
Was scourged, and head lopt off.

PELAGIA, V. M.;
311.

A tender maid
Pelagia was, who from the house-top leapt 110
Her virtue to preserve from impious 'raid
Of furious soldiers : in the Lord she slept,

Kill'd by the fall.

10.
GETULIUS, &c.;
Martyrs under
Adrian.

Getulius was bereft
Of life because, when he the faith embraced
Through friends' persuasion, he the army left : 115
They suffer'd with him.

Landry the distrest

JUNE.
 LANDBY,
 Archbishop of
 Paris;
 660.

Fed from his stores, and melted the church-plate
 In time of famine for them. Th' Hôtel-Dieu
 By him was founded, where perpetual wait
 Upon the sick, and tender patience show, 120

A hundred nuns, and fifty novices
 Of th' Hospitallers' Order, Austin's rule
 Observing strict.

Of all in sad distress

MARGARET,
 Queen of
 Scotland;
 1093.

Queen Marg'ret was the friend, nor e'er to cool

Was her benev'lence known. By sweetness she 125
 Did her rough husband guide, but th' only use
 She made of her high influence was to see
 That virtue reign'd, and each long-nursed abuse

Was rooted out. Her court and family
 She blest alike by her continual prayer 130
 And high example. Her authority
 Strengthen'd the clergy in their holy care.

11.
 BARNABAS,
 Apostle

Not of the chosen twelve, but always styled
 "Apostle," Barnabas a Levite was,
 And born in Cyprus. A *consoler* mild, 135
 And full of th' "Holy Ghost and faith," we class

So *good a man* among the sacred band,
 "Princes in all the earth." He brought St. Paul
 Himself to the apostles, and thus fann'd
 That eager flame which through the nations all 140

JUNE.

Was soon to spread. To Antioch the two
 Together went, where first the *Christian* name
 Was giv'n ; and after preparation due
 Were sent by th' Holy Ghost the world to shame

Out of its idol-worship. "Jupiter" 145

At first the heathen call'd our saint, so grave
 And comely was his look ; but he
 Abhor'd the name and honour, nor would have

Sacrifice done to him. At last the wreath
 Of martyrdom at Salamis he gain'd ; 150
 For Jews inveterate conspired his death,
 And soon the city with his blood was stain'd.

12.
 BASILIDES, &c.,
 Martyrs under
 Maxentius.

Four soldiers in Maxentius' army served,
 And at Aurelius the prefect's 'hest
 Were apprehended ; nor inconstant swerved 155
 From their high calling, but the faith profest

Of Him who to a heav'nly warfare calls
 All his adherents. Torments suff'ring first,
 They were beheaded.

Tho' within the walls

13.
 ANTONY
 of Padua,
 1281.

Of Lisbon born, St. Antony his thirst 160

For justice chief at Padua slaked, and there
 His relics lie. The lowest convent-rank
 He wisht to fill, tho' gifted with a rare
 Spirit of eloquence. He constant drank

JUNE.

At the clear Scripture-fountain, and outspread 165
 Its waters wide. His words, like arrows tipt
 With fire, enter'd men's inmost hearts, and made
 Them glow with love divine. Old sinners, stript

Of self-love's cov'ring, at his feet confest
 Them vanquisht. Men's dissensions he appeased, 170
 Made them their gains, by unjust arts possest,
 Duly restore, and saw them sadly pleased,

To hear his counsels strict. Soon as his soul
 Had flown, "The *saint* is gone!" ev'n children said ;
 And Rome without delay began t' enrol 175
 Among the heav'nly choir th' illustrious dead.

14.
 RUFINUS and
 VALERIUS, MM.
 under Maximian.

Rufinus and Valerius in fasts
 Abounded, and in alms-deeds ; dwellers they
 At Soissons, where their martyr-fame still lasts.—
 Basil the Great we praise on the same day, 180

BASIL THE
 GREAT,
 Archbishop
 Cæsarea ;
 379.

Illustrious doctor, and bold champion,
 Of holy Church ; at Cæsarea born,
 And there at length archbishop. He was son
 Of two blest saints,* whose names the roll adorn

Of heav'n's aspirants ; and his brothers twain 185
 The same high station hold. In orat'ry
 All Fathers he excels, tho' poor and vain
 Human applause he counted. Gregory

* Saints Basil the Elder and Emmelia. His brothers were
 Saints Gregory of Nyssa and Peter of Sebaste.

JUNE.

Of Nazianzum was his much-loved friend :
 Together the saints studied, and they knew 190
 Only two streets ; one, at whose farther end
 The church was situate ; th' other, where with due

And constant feet the schools they sought. As slave
 St. Basil used his body ; ever prone
 Against the spirit to revolt, and crave 195
 Undue indulgence. In the desert lone

His friend and he th' angelic life embraced ;
 But when death sever'd them he left his cell
 And profited the world. Meek, humble, chaste,
 At last he soar'd 'mong kindred souls to dwell. 200

15.
 VITUS,
 CRESCENTIA,
 and MODESTUS,
 Martyrs in the
 beginning of the
 4th cent.

Vitus was nobly born in Sicily,
 And taught religion by his Christian nurse
 Crescentia. When to foul idolatry
 His father found that no prolong'd discourse

Could make him yield, nor whippings, he resign'd 205
 The boy t' a governor, whose arts proved vain.
 Modestus was of like religious mind,
 The nurse's husband ; and all three, to gain

16.
 FERREOLUS and
 FERRUTUS,
 Deacons and
 Martyrs ;
 About 212.

The martyr's crown, came to Lucania's shore,
 And Dioclesian's victims soon became.— 210
 Like witnesses next day hath furnisht four ;
 Two, whom St. Irenæus sent, the name

JUNE.

Of Christ to publish at Besançon's town ;
And then, a mother and her little son,

CYR & JULITTA,
MM.;
304.

Cyr and Julitta ; who could jointly own
The faith, and give their lives in unison.

215

While she, from kings descended, was with thong
Scourged by the judge's order, the young boy
Sat on his knee, and after her with tongue
Of innocence did lisp, " A Christian I."

220

The judge, enraged, then threw him to the ground
From the tribunal, dashing out his brains
Against its steps, and all the place around
Was sprinkled with the blood. In joyful strains

Julitta thanks exprest, that she in heav'n
Had now a son. The madden'd governor
Order'd her tender sides with hooks be riv'n,
And scalding pitch upon her feet to pour :

225

Meantime a crier proclamation made,—
" Take pity on thyself, and sacrifice,
Lest thou be like thy son." She dauntless said,
" I do not offer to your idol-lies,

230

But worship Christ, by whom the Father all
Has made." She was beheaded, and her child
Was lifeless thrown beyond the city-wall
Among th' unburied carcases defiled

235

JUNE.

17.
ALBAN,
Protomartyr of
Britain;
303.

Of malefactors. This in Tarsus was, but next
Back to our own loved isle we turn, and praise
St. Alban, our first martyr. Th' holy text
Saith, " All, that will live godly, in Christ's ways 240

Of suffering must walk : " yet this our land
Escaped the earliest persecutions dire,
Till Dioclesian a heroic band
Raised to the martyr's honours. The kind fire

Of hospitable love in Alban's breast 245
Glow'd while yet heathen ; for a shelter he
Afforded to a persecuted priest,
And was rewarded by discovery

Of God's own " marvellous light." He donn'd the dress
Of the good priest, and in his stead before 250
The magistrate appear'd ; nor show'd he less
Courage than would have graced him who had more

Years in Christ's service spent than Alban's days ;
But after cruel scourging lost his head.—
18.
MARCUS and
MARCELLIANUS,
Martyrs;
286.
Marcellianus next we joyful praise, 255
And his twin-brother Marcus: they the bed

Of honourable marriage holy kept,
But left their wives for Christ ; nay, to His faith
Turn'd them by conf'rence blest. Before they slept
In Him men bound them, ancient record saith, 260

JUNE.

To pillars two, to which their feet were nail'd ;
 And thus a day and night they stood, and then
 Were stabb'd with lances. But their tongues ne'er fail'd
 To bless the Lord till from this dreary den

Their spirits flew.—Of twins another pair 265

19.
 GERVASIUS and
 PROTASIIUS,
 Martyrs under
 Nero or
 Dioclesian.

Come next before us, less for what they did,
 Or suffer'd, known than for the wonders rare
 Wrought by their relics, which had long been hid,

And the saints' fame forgotten by the men
 Of Milan. But their God the place reveal'd 270
 To Ambrose where those relics lay, and then
 A church was built upon them, and they heal'd

A man long blind, and many sick and lame,—
 As he and Austin fully testify.—
 Edward succeeded Edgar, and he came 275

20.
 Translation of
 ST. EDWARD.

To the fair throne of th' English Heptarchy

When only twelve years old. Not long the boy
 His sov'reignty enjoy'd, but victim fell
 To cruel stepmother.

His heav'nly joy
 Was witness by miraculous cures, as tell 280

Our old historians ; and his remains,
 Which first reposed at Wareham, were in state
 To Shaftsbury transferr'd.

On Syria's plains
 A city stood, from times of early date

JUNE.

21.
EUSEBIUS,
Bishop of
Samosata and
Martyr;
380.

A bishop's see,—Samosata ; and there 285
Eusebius was placed when Arian spite
And guile prevail'd in many a neighb'ring chair.
Trusted by th' heretics themselves, (so right

And true were all his dealings,) he was yet
By th' emp'r'r threaten'd, and at length to Thrace 290
Banisht for truth ; nor could the enemy get
The people's love for him whom in the place

Of the good bishop they had thrust. T' his see
Return'd, 't was but to suffer ; for his flame
Of zeal led him thro' th' east in charity 295
To travel, and build up the Church. He came

At last to Dolicha, where Arians most
Abounded : there a woman of the sect
Murder'd the saint, as he, with zeal engrost,
Walkt to the church the bishop to protect. 300

22.
PAULINUS,
Bishop of Nola;
431.

At Bordeaux born, Paulinus could look back
On a long line of noble senators ;
And in his mind and body had no lack
Of any good endowment. All his hours

He gave to study, and thus seconded 305
The work of nature. Famed Ausonius
His master was, and stored the pupil-head
With ev'ry lib'ral art. Still sedulous

JUNE. Mankind to please, esteem he ev'ry where
 Obtain'd; but God was pleas'd his eyes 310
 To open, and to make him greatly dare
 To become little for th' immortal prize.

Vast wealth renouncing, he the hatred keen
 Incurr'd of old admirers, but with Paul
 Said that Christ's servant must not to please men 315
 Attempt.

Not in the Kalendars of all

23.
 MARY of
 Oignies,
 1213.

The Churches, ev'n in Flanders, where she died
 And lived, is Mary's name inscribed; but she
 Is worthy of remembrance where'er pride
 Is hated, and Christ's own humility 320

Practised and loved. A pious husband strove
 To imitate her virtues, and they both
 To serve the lepers gave themselves in love,
 Nor fear'd the scorn which selfishness and sloth

Cast on them. When she spun or workt, she had 325
 The Psalter always open at her side
 And frequent at it lookt. Austerely clad
 And fed,—the thought of Him who for us died

Was her sole joy. Endued with prophecy,
 She yet more humble grew. Before her death 330
 Unceasing to the blessed Trinity
 She alleluias sang, and seal'd her faith

JUNE. In Jesu's blood.

24.
Nativity of Saint
JOHN BAPTIST.

Behold the messenger
God's way preparing! him who in the strength
And spirit of Elias came before 335
The Lord's own day, to turn the sires at length

And children to each other, and the hearts
Of rebels to the wisdom of the Just!
Stern preacher, he no base time-serving arts
Knew, nor would pander to a tyrant's lust.— 340

The "Voice" the *Word* preceded, and with cry,
Predicted long, Judæa's deserts fill'd;
And show'd, by fastings and austerity,
That he the world within himself had kill'd;

Or rather that the visit to him made, 345
When both were in the womb, by Jesus blest,
Had grace so strong imparted, that he dead
To sin became ere born. The crowds confest

Their sins to him, and were in Jordan laved:
Nay, he *the Sinless* washt, and pointed out 350
That Lamb by whom alone "we must be saved."—
Teller of tidings good! thy joyful shout

Resounds throughout the Church in ev'ry age,
While she fulfils the angel's solemn words.*—
How many things in thee our love engage, 355
And reverence! exalted by the Lord's

* St. Luke i. 14, "Many shall rejoice at his birth."

JUNE.

Own sentence above all of women born !

“ Burning and shining light !” “ the Bridegroom’s
friend !”

“ More than a prophet !” thee at once adorn

The hermit’s, virgin’s, martyr’s wreaths, and blend 360

Above thy holy brow.

25.
PROSPER of
Aquitain.
463.

When Austin’s lore

The grace divine affirming, gave offence

To half-Pelagian priests, St. Prosper bore

With him the sweet reproach, and with strong sense

And copious verse the heretics disarm’d ; 365

Telling that *God in us doth nothing crown*

*But His own gifts.** The great St. Leo, charm’d

With Prosper’s zeal and learning, to the town

Invited, and employ’d him in affairs.

There the Pelagian heresy, whose head 370

Again was raised by th’ enemy, who tares

Sows ’mong the wheat, was speedy prostrated.

28.
JOHN and PAUL,
Martyrs ;
about 362.

SS. John and Paul th’ apostate Julian’s

Officers were, but th’ honours of the world

Despised, and o’er its threats triumpht at once. 375

While he from his prosperity was hurl’d

* “ Nil Deus in nobis præter sua dona coronat.”

JUNE. Into the pit himself had digg'd, and cried,
 "O Galilæan, Thou at length hast won,"
 The martyrs for that Galilæan died,
 And found their endless glory then begun. 380

27.
 JOHN OF CHINON,
 6th cent.

St. John of Chinon was a Briton born,
 But crost the sea to fair Touraine, and led
 A life retired there. In perfect scorn
 Of earth's resources, a small cell and bed,

With orat'ry and orchard near the house 385
 Of God, were all he call'd his own; and there
 All converse with the world superfluous
 He shunn'd, and 'neath the laurel-boughs his chair

Placing would write and read. O'er his remains
 They waved, and many were to health restored 390
 After his death, there praying.

O'er the plains

LADISLAS
 THE FIRST,
 King of Hungary,
 1095.

Of Hungary was Ladislas the lord,
 Forced 'gainst his will to reign. Good discipline
 He soon revived, was chaste and meek, and scorn'd
 Avarice and ambition. Waradin 395
 Still by the good king's relics is adorn'd,

Who 'gainst the Huns, the Russians, Tartars, Poles,
 Victorious fought, and then tow'rd Palestine
 His thoughts was turning, when the Lord of souls
 Call'd him from earth to heav'n's own joys divine 400

JUNE.
28.
IRENÆUS,
Bishop of Lyons,
and his
Companions,
Martyrs;
302.

Blest Irenæus, long Pothinus' priest,
His lamp employ'd 'gainst error's deadly night,
Nor, while his Lord vouchsafed to use him, ceased
Strenuous for holy discipline to fight.

He loved th' apostles' preaching to defend, 405
And vindicate the ways of God to man ;
Nor, fear'd his warning voice to Rome to lend
Lest primary abused should prove a ban.

At length, when Lyons flow'd with Christian blood,
And martyrs, only in life's book enroll'd, 410
(So num'rous were they) gave their lives to God,
This holy bishop left his suff'ring fold.

Keen tortures proved him for the heav'nly meed,
Nor groans nor murmurs could his foes extort :
Here fitly placed his festal hours precede 415
The day when Peter join'd the heav'nly court ;

29.
PETER & PAUL,
Apostles.

Peter, whose praise from Paul's was ne'er disjoin'd
(Like glorious in their life, nor deaths divide,)
Till our "Reformers" with presuming mind
Sever'd the names, and marr'd this holy tide. 420

O happy Rome ! with blood of these high-graced,
Among the nations still thou tow'rst sublime,
And 'mid thy trophies hast triumphant placed
Th' inverted cross, and sword, defying time.

L

JUNE. What tho' thy pontiff now to exile driv'n 425
 His predecessors' sins doth expiate ?
 No less he wields the golden keys of heav'n,
 A chief to rule, a priest to impetrate.*

O happier still, if taught by adverse days
 He love like Peter and be meek like Paul : 430
 So shall the Church resume her early rays,
 Greek, Western, Anglican, harmonious all.

30.
 MARTIAL,
 Bishop of
 Limoges ;
 3rd cent.

Then all will own thee mistress in the art,
 The glorious art, of missionary love ;
 As when thy pontiff proved St. Martial's heart, 435
 And sent him forth with wisdom from above.

Lo ! at his preaching Gaul's old idols reel,
 The Christian altar to their shrine succeeds :
 The holy bishop spreads his hands with zeal,
 Nor more to Lust or War the victim bleeds. 440

Once fixt his see, his priests he bids depart,
 Nay, heads them as the heralds of the cross :
 Souls his epistle, written in the heart ;
 To him, for Jesu's sake, the world was loss.

Blest Lord ! Thy priceless riches to proclaim, 445
 Send forth such preachers in earth's warning year :
 So shall Thy love again each soul inflame,
 And fruits of penance prove our vows sincere.

* This was written during the exile of His Holiness.

JULY.
1.
JULIUS and
AARON, M.M.;
303.

Julius and Aaron were two Britons born,
But took at baptism, one a Roman name, 450
And one a Hebrew. Privileged t' adorn
These with the martyr's crown of deathless fame,

They fell at Caerleon upon Usk, beneath
The cruel Dioclesian.

THIERRI,
Abbot of
Mont d' Hor,
near Rheims;
533.

Of Mont d' Hor
Abbot, St. Thierry did to France bequeath 455
An honour'd name. For all the good abhor

His father was notorious ; but the saint
Was happily from such infection ta'en,
And by Remigius rear'd, and so no taint
Enter'd his soul, or ill example's bane. 460

Many a sinner turn'd he,—'mong the rest
His wicked father ; and a shameless house
Of lustful women to a holy nest
Of nuns converted, bound by rigid vows.

2.
Visitation of
B.V.M.

Who climbs the mountains like an incense cloud ? 465
Whose beauteous steps do myrrh and sweetness mark ?
'Tis she, the Word's great Mother, o'er each proud
Opposing steep who goes, our Hope's blest Ark.—

Eager to bless mankind, Thou could'st not wait,
Divine Redeemer ! till Thy lowly birth : 470
Thy forerunner, alike in embryo state,
Thou now didst sanctify, a boon for earth.

JULY.
4.
Translation of
ST. MARTIN;
473.

'Tween Tours and Poitiers a dispute arose
About St. Martin's body, but his sheep
Carried it off: the gates of Tours unclose,
And pour her crowds to meet it and safe keep. 500

Two thousand monks, and virgins numberless,
Form'd the procession, and no face was dry,
As borne with hymns to the retired place
Of burial, his monastery by,

Were the saint's relics. Brice, his successor, 505
Over the lowly tomb a chapel built;
But St. Perpetuus, years sixty-four
After St. Martin's death, a richly gilt

And sumptuous altar rear'd, and then behind
This new erection was the tomb transferr'd 510
On this fourth of July; which men in mind
Had as the day on which his voice was heard

5.
PETER of
LUXEMBURGH,
Cardinal;
1387.

First from the bishop's throne.
To many a house
Of sov'reign pow'r allied, St. Peter, yet,
Of Luxemburgh has by his virtuous 515
And holy life more radiant candle lit.

Hearing that by the English prisoner seized
His brother was, he went to London straight,
Off'ring himself as hostage till released
By payment of the ransom. To the state 520

JULY. Of canon raised, and soon a bishop named
 (Tho' never consecrate) his diocese
 He faithfully administer'd ; was famed
 Alike for love and for austerities,

But mitigated these at Clement's word. 525
 Oft he repeated to himself, " Rejoice
 In self-contempt, but not of others." Lord,
 Help us to make the lesson our blest choice.

6.
PALLADIUS,
 Apostle of the
 Scots ;
 About 450.

Hail, good Palladius ! who, when error's cloud
 Would banish from our isles the truths of grace, 530
 And fast enshrine Pelagius' teachings proud,
 Withstoodst the vile irruption to the face,

And firm didst fix our fathers on the rock,
 The stable rock of faith ; but chief the rude
 And savage Scots, (who now thy saintship mock,) 535
 Were by thy fervent eloquence subdued.

In Ireland first thou foundst them, and before
 Ev'n Patrick's era didst thy toils begin,
 Sent from great Célestine the waters o'er,
 Each barb'rous soul from Satan's nets to win ; 540

Then banisht, followdst them to Britain's coast,
 A church didst rear, and diedst in sanctity.
 O that thy prayers, with all the heav'nly host,
 Might turn them now from schism and heresy !

JULY.
7.
PANTÆNUS,
Father of the
Church ;
beginning of
3rd cent.

Pantænus, who " Sicilian Bee " was call'd 545
By Alexandria's Clement, whom he taught,
At first among the Porch's wise install'd,
Soon learnt the better part, and glad was caught

In gospel-net, and studied Scripture-lore,
Nor did his light beneath the bushel bide ; 550.
But held it burning on the Indian shore,
And bade consume the works of Brachman-pride.

WILLIBALD,
Bishop of
Aichstadt ;
796.

Another saint doth this day consecrate,
A native of our fruitful Anglian isle,
(Fruitful in saints of old, but now of late 555
With poor-law prisons spread for many a mile,)

St. Willibald his name ; who Syrian land
Explored, with other youths on virtue bent,
Resolved in God incarnate's steps to stand,
And weep and meditate as on they went, 560

8.
PROCOPIUS,
1st Martyr of
Palestine in the
Dioclesian perse-
cution ; called by
the Greeks the
Great Martyr.

In that blest clime Procopius drew his breath,
And exorcised from men the demons foul :
His life prepared him for a martyr's death :
The flesh he mortified, but fed the soul.

Follower of Christ in meek and lowly guise, 565
Yet bold and firm before the prefect's seat,
To idols he refused the sacrifice,
Nor the four emp'rors' love would thus entreat.

JULY. "How, Prefect, can I offer but to God,
 The world who made and hourly still doth keep? 570
 All things obey this great Protector's nod,
 And we His people are, His pasture's sheep."

For this his head struck off, his life he lost,
 To gain it in that happier world to come,
 Where saints, no more on trouble's billows tost, 575
 Shall wear the garlands that unwith'ring bloom.

9.
 EPHRAIM of
 Syria, Deacon;
 378.

A holy deacon next we celebrate,
 Who many a priest and bishop long hath taught,—
 Ephraim of Syria: he this mortal state
 To tears devoted, nor would bear that aught 580

In him should praise or commendation draw;
 But ever as in sight of that white throne
 Lived, spoke, and felt, whence soon the fiery law
 Shall issue, and our endless doom make known.

A light, fond woman once at Ephraim gazed, 585
 And, when the modest saint reproved her, cried,
 "O holy man of God! be not amazed
 If woman, who was taken from man's side,

Should on him look; but man upon the ground,
 Whence *he* was form'd, should ever cast his eyes." 590
 He on these words a treatise straight did found,
 By Syrians deem'd of all his works most wise.

JULY.
10.
Seven Sons of
St. FELICITAS,
Martyrs;
2nd cent.

Sev'n brethren the next day the faith confest,
Moved by their mother for our Christ to die :
Cruel the pains that sent them to their rest, 595
But bright the crown that lured them from on high.

"Why force me," said the judge, "thy sons to send
To savage deaths?" "Eternal," she replied,
The death that waits them if they zealous tend
Your altar-fires ;—but tear them from my side, 600

And then a moment's suff'ring, and the rest
Is endless life and joy by Jesus' throne."
The better part thus chosen, the behest
Was soon pronounced, and speedy sentence done.

One was with leaden plummets scourged to death, 605
Two with huge clubs were slain, a headlong height
Received the fourth, the youngest three their breath
Beneath the axe resign'd,—four paths to light.

11.
JAMES,
Bishop of
Nisibis;
350.

Next after these we honour a St. James,
Of kindred life to th' apostolic two : 610
Ent'ring the world in youth, he 'scaped its stains,
And soon began his nature to subdue.

He saw that world a den where lust and pride
And empty folly take their turns to reign ;
Where crowds are tossing on the headlong tide 615
That sweeps them down to endless death's domain.

JULY. Hence simple and austere of life he fared,
 On savage roots and herbs undrest he fed :
 The goats, whose mountain solitudes he shared,
 Supplied his dress, the open woods his bed. 620

At Nice's venerable council seen,
 The faith he bold asserted ; and at home
 Proved, by his prayers, his city's fav'ring screen,
 And gain'd from God an adverse army's doom.

12.
 NABOR and
 FELIX;
 Martyrs;
 304.

At Milan, where the Ambrosian chant sublime 625
 'Neath arches of unequal'd beauty swells,
 Nabor and Felix sleep, defying time :
 A virtue in their holy relics dwells,

For precious in God's sight his martyrs' end.
 Without the walls at first their bodies lay, 630
 But soon within were brought, and so defend
 The city : o'er their tomb the faithful pray.

JOHN
 GUALBERT,
 Abbot;
 1073.

A third this day the heav'nly armies join'd,
 Founder of Vallombrosa's order pure :
 A worldling first, with sore and vengeful mind 635
 He sought his brother's blood to expiate sure.

He met the murd'rer on that solemn day
 When God incarnate shed for us his blood :
 Entreated, by that death, his sword to stay,
 He gave the sinner life, himself to God. 640

JULY.
13.
EUGENIUS,
Bishop of
Carthage;
506.

Not long the Church from pagan pride had rest
When Arian cruelty its rule began ;
And good Eugenius, by its rage oppress,
His blest career of saintly meekness ran.

At first ev'n heretics esteem'd his life, 645
But soon to hate blind zeal and envy learn'd :
His flock were tortured in the holy strife,
And he the meed of distant exile earn'd.

Hence to his sheep beloved he piteous wrote ;
Begging with tears, and by the "judgment day," 650
That they to Christ would life and death devote,
Nor from the holy doctrine fall away.

Committed to an Arian bishop's guard,
He suffer'd much, but was recall'd at length ;
Escaped the axe, from martyrdom debarr'd,— 655
But exile new wore out his vital strength.

14.
BONAVENTURE,
Cardinal and
Doctor of the
Church;
1274.

Next the great light and ornament we hail
Of the Franciscans, him who has been styled
Doctor Seraphic. Of his years the tale
Had been cut short, when yet an infant mild, 660

But for St. Francis' prayers, who rapt'rous cried,
"Buona ventura!" as he prescient saw
The future saint, his order's joy and pride.—
Great was the youth's delight in God's blest law,

JULY.

And all the titles which our spirits bind 665
 To His obedience.—Once Aquinas came,
 And askt him in what books the saint could find
 His sacred lore. No learned author's name

The saint announced, but pointed to the cross.
 'Twas there he studied, in the Saviour's heart 670
 Learning true wisdom, earth's gain counting loss
 And men's salvation the sole useful art.

15.
 SWITHIN,
 Bishop of
 Winchester;
 862.

Rich in all virtues, but conspicuous most
 For humble love, St. Swithin markt his rule.
 By night he journey'd with his tonsured host, 575
 T' avoid observance : and in Jesus' school

So deep had studied, that with feet unshod
 He went whene'er a church to dedicate
 He purposed. Calling sinners back to God
 His mouth seemed ever open. He ne'er ate 680

To fill his appetite, but to support
 Nature, and slept no longer than required
 Long toils and vigils. Resolute to court
 No after honours, he, by heav'n inspired,

Begg'd that his body in the church's yard 685
 Might buried be ; and when, with over zeal,
 It up was taken, and with fond regard
 Translated to the Church, a thunder peal

JULY. Was heard, and heavy desolating rains
Follow'd the change.

Eustathius is praised 690

16.
EUSTATHIUS,
Patriarch of
Antioch.
338.

By Athanasius' self for love and pains
Christ in avowing ; and the saint amazed

His persecutors by th' heroic zeal
He show'd. For Antioch named, he firm opposed
The motion ; but, debarr'd from all appeal, 695
Was forced to acquiesce. The Arians rose

Against him, and suborn'd a woman base,
With child at breast, who him the father named.
The saint, by apostolic rule in case
Of priest accused, humbly but boldly claim'd 700

More witnesses ; but none, ev'n false, appear'd.
Before the woman died, she call'd around
Her bed the clergy, and Eustathius clear'd.—
Ere yet Severus came with vict'ry crown'd,

17.
SPERATUS, &c.,
Martyr;
200.

Back from his wars, to Rome, the eager zeal 705
Of th' African proconsul drew the sword
Against the Christians, and made twelve to feel
Its edge, and sent them martyrs to their Lord.

When askt the Roman gods to worship, "We,"
Speratus said in name of all, "have ne'er 710
Committed crime, inflicted injury,
Nor evil render'd. To one God our prayer

JULY. Is ever offer'd for our enemies."

"Swear by the emp'ror's genius." "I know not
Such genius, but serve Him, by mortal eyes 715
Who ne'er is seen, nor can be. 'Tis my lot,

And willing service, for my temp'ral lord
The emp'ror to acknowledge." Women three
Like answers, bold but dutiful, afford,
And all the twelve enter'd eternity. 720

18
SYMPHOROSA
and her Sons,
Martyrs;
120.

When Adrian his luxurious house had rear'd
Where Tivoli o'erlooks swift Anio's wave,
His votive prayers the demon idols heard,
And soon this terrible response they gave:—

"The widow Symphorosa and her sons 725
Daily torment us as to Christ they pray :
Persuade them all to sacrifice at once,
And we thy house will guard, and bless thy way."

This martyr's relict, famed for care of poor,
Lived with her sons upon a plenteous soil ; 530
But sigh'd for heav'nly riches' endless store,
And added to her sighs the Christian's toil.

Besought to sacrifice, she stern refused,
Was buffeted, and by her tresses hung,
Then drown'd : her sons, with cruel vileness used, 735
The martyr's king own'd with united tongue.

JULY.

19.
ARSENIVS
Anchoret;
449.

Now the world's masters have received the light,
 And Theodosius to Arsenius' trust
 Commits his children ; who the path of right
 Learn'd from this saint so prudent, kind, and just. 740

High honours flow'd upon him ; but his heart
 Was weary of them, and in secret sigh'd
 For holy silence and the better part :
 The world he left, and to its pleasures died.

An abbot askt him why the hermits' talk 745
 He shunn'd : "God knows how well," Arsenius said,
 "I love them all ; but if with him I walk
 Them I must leave, nor place them in His stead."

About to die, he rig'rously forbade
 That aught of his as relic should be kept : 750
 His soul, so long in mournful meekness clad,
 With joy at length dismiss, in Jesus slept.

20.
JOSEPH
BARBARAS.

When traitor-Judas by transgression fell,
 And to his own infernal place was gone,
 Two were appointed, and the lot must tell 755
 Which the Lord chose to be the favour'd one.

Joseph, tho' named the Just, continued still
 Among the sev'nty, but rejoiced to see
 Mathias rankt above him to fulfil
 The apostolic task : less honor'd he 760

JULY.

MARGARET,
Virgin Martyr in
the last general
persecution.

Went forth as priest, and 'mong the nations toil'd.—

This day the holy Marg'ret too we praise,
Who kept her fontal robe by lust unsoil'd,
And added to her wreath a martyr's bays.

Her sire, an idol-priest, her body tore 765

With various torments, but to shake her fail'd :
She, her short trial-hour of suff'ring o'er,
For ever o'er death, sin, and hell prevail'd.

21.
VICTOR,
Martyr under
Maximian.

Maximian, reeking with the blood of saints,
Came to Marseilles, and threats and slaughter 770
breathed.

Hail to the *Cong'ror* who nor fails nor faints,
But to all time his garland has bequeathed!

A Roman captain, he amid night's shades
From house to house among the Christians goes ;
Inspires with scorn of axes and of blades, 775
And bids them climb to heav'n 'neath ling'ring blows.

Nor less his bold example than his word :
All bruised and bloody on the rack he lay,
Imploring patience from his martyr'd Lord,
Until his tired tormentors first gave way. 780

Then in a dungeon thrown,—a heav'nly light
Converts the guards, who martyrdom obtain'd ;
But three days torment more increased his fight,
At length his blood a crushing millstone stain'd.

JULY.
22.
MARY MAGDALEN Sev'n demons forth from Mary Jesus drove, 785
And won her to His side for ever fast :
No dangers could deter her grateful love,
Which *minister'd her substance* till the last.

Last at the cross, and earliest at the tomb,
She saw the stone, by angel-might removed : 790
Not needed now her offer'd sweet perfume
T' anoint the form of Him, her best belov'd.

Still keeping by the sepulchre she staid,
And stoopt within, and saw two angels bright,
And said she knew not where her Lord was laid,— 995
When lo ! He stands before her tear-dimm'd sight,

Which for the gard'ner takes Him ; but the tone
Of that dear voice the revelation gave,
And sent her, (envied honor !) forth alone,
First herald of His triumph o'er the grave. 800

23.
APOLLINARIUS,
1st Bishop of
Ravenna,
and Martyr,
under Vespasian. Apollinaris sat full twenty years
In old Ravenna's see : his acts him call
Peter's disciple. Martyr he appears
T' have been in will and part, but never all

His blood for Christ t' have giv'n.

Of noble race 805

LABORIUS,
Bishop of Mans ;
397. In Gaul was St. Liborius, and made priest
In church of Mans for pregnant marks of grace
Seen in his life. He never willing ceased

JULY. From th' hidden path of prayer ; and only mixt,
 Ev'n 'mong the clergy, with the men whose aims 810
 On the eternal kingdom still were fixt,
 And whose sweet converse heav'nly love inflames.

Chos'n of all eyes, at length the bishop's seat
 He fill'd, fourth of the see : severe his fasts
 And long his prayers : at length he left this state 815
 For God's own mansion, which for ever lasts.

24.
 Lupus,
 Bishop of Troyes
 478.

Lupus, a pleader eloquent, the bar
 Quitted, and to the famous abbey went
 Of Lerins, and austere lived a year
 Within its precincts. On the sale intent 820

Of his estates for charitable use,
 The church of Troyes elected him to sit
 Their bishop. Here a vest, and sackcloth loose,
 Were his sole garments. When the lamp, erst lit

In Britain, seem'd beneath Pelagian blast 825
 Like to expire, Lupus was worthy found
 To guard the flame. The heresy at last
 By him and St. Germanus from the ground

Of Britain was expell'd. "The scourge of God"
 He boldly met, ev'n at his army's head, 830
 And turn'd his wrath from Troyes ; which far abroad
 Among the lands St. Lupus' fame has spread.

JULY.
25.
JAMES THE SON
OF ZEBEDEE,
Apostle.

Son of the thunder, who wouldst call its flame
Samaria's rebels to consume and blight,
But soon wast taught that thy meek Saviour came 835
Not to destroy, but give men life and light !

"Grant to sit near Thee in Thy glory, Lord !"
Was once thy prayer ; and Jesus answer'd it,
Not as thou wouldst, but did to thee afford
First of the holy twelve the guerdon fit 840

Of martyrdom for Him,—but, ere the blade
Of Herod its immortal mark imprest,
Bade three go forth and rescue from the shade
Intø God's glorious light each willing breast.

And thus thine earlier wish was answer'd too 845
In better sense ; for fire from heav'n came down,
The fire of God's sweet love, to make anew
Men's rebel hearts, and form them like His own.

26.
ANNE,
Mother of the
B.V.M.

Gracious in name, St. Anne was fittest found,
With holy Joachim, her husband blest, 850
To mould *her* form whom "full of grace" the sound
Of Gabriel's voice has markt from out the rest

Of Eva's daughters, and whose seed divine
The serpent's head hath bruised. To Anne we owe
That Virgin blest, from Anne she line on line 855
Of heav'nly precept learnt : 'mong men below

JULY.

A copy Anne for Christian parents set,
 Whose well-taught children rise and call them blest :
 O that her lesson they would ne'er forget,
 But train up souls in whom the Lord might rest ! 860

Shame that this world's base wealth, and honours foul
 Should more parental eagerness engage
 Than heav'nly meed, and treasures of the soul,
 Which moth and rust defy, and wasting age !

27.
 THE SEVEN
 SLEEPERS,
 Martyrs;
 250.

Far other were the hopes bright youth inspired 865
 At Ephesus, 'neath Decius' bloody rage,
 When the Sev'n Sleepers, with ambition fired
 Christ to confess, gave up their tender age

To torture, and the faith adorn'd, and then
 Were shut up in a cave to ling'ring death. 870
 Long after were their relics found, and men
 Who fiction love better than truth's pure breath

The legend since have framed that sleep alone
 O'ertook the martyrs ; but *in Christ* they slept,
 And ne'er shall wake till the last trumpet's tone 875
 Shall rouse the dead. Into that cave they crept

For safety, nor with foolish boldness rusht
 To martyr's honours, but their Lord obey'd,
 Who bids us, when by persecution crusht,
 To flee, if giv'n us, till its heat be stay'd. 880

JULY.
28.
NAZARIUS and
CELSUS,
Martyrs;
68.

Nor need this prudence be disjoin'd from zeal,
As blest Nazarius with his Celsus shows :
He left his native Rome to know and feel
The flame that in the Christian preacher glows.

VICTOR,
Bishop of Rome;
201.

Arrived at Milan, by the axe they fell ;— 885
But Rome, who sent them, has a martyr too,
Or confessor, (for authors doubtful tell),
To grace this day with celebration due.

Watchful 'gainst errors wild and turbid stream,
Montanus' impious fancies he opposed, 890
Nor Tatian's less, whose forward self-esteem
The Marcionite impiety disclosed.

The Paschal question in his time began ;
And Victor, tho' severe, yet listen'd meek
To Irenæus, apostolic man ! 895
Whose counsels bade the pope less hasty speak.

29.
MARTHA,
the Sister of
LAZARUS.

"Jesus loved Martha," says the sacred page,
"Mary, and Lazarus ;"—but wisely show'd
In varied methods, for each future age,
The love that in His heavenly bosom glow'd. 900

To Mary blest, who chose the better part
Of sitting at His feet, and drank His words,
He taught celestial contemplation's art,
Their gift who most profoundly are the Lord's.

JULY. To Lazarus He vouchsafed a second life, 905
 Redeeming from the tomb to earthly day :
 What, then, to Martha, for her eager strife
 Of sacred service, could His love repay ?

 He taught her that *one thing* still *needful is*,
 And how to sanctify each household toil. 910
 She lived the lesson, bore infirmities,
 And hallow'd with her dust Provence's soil.

30.
 ABDON and
 SENNEN,
 Martyrs;
 260.

 Thus to the West the gospel-torrent roll'd,
 But left not orient climes without its grace :
 Abdon's and Sennen's tale in both is told ; 915
 Persians, who to the Roman tyrant's face

 Confest their Lord. Their frames were cover'd o'er
 With ghastly wounds, which endless glory won
 In climes above. The antiquary's lore
 Late boasts their forms in crownet-sculpture done. 920

JULITTA,
 Martyr ;
 303.

 These Decius slew ;—but Dioclesian's rage
 Another martyr to this day affords,
 Julitta ; whom the saints' historic page
 A wealthy Cappadocian dame records.

 Robb'd of her lands, and then a Christian styled,—925
 The prætor bade disproof by sacrifice :
 But she the flames preferr'd ; which rising mild
 Around her stifled frame ascend the skies.

JULY
31.
GERMANUS,
Bishop of
Auxerre;
448.

Germanus ends the month, who left for God
Great wealth and honours, and the sacring oil 930
Received : imprest with th' overwhelming load
Of prelate-functions, he no wearing toil

Refused, nor self-denying rule austere.
His barley-bread he thresht himself and ground,
Washt the poor's feet, and gave them gen'rous fare, 935
Fasting himself : in heav'n he treasure found,

And gave the Church his fair and spacious lands
Contiguous lying. Twice to Britain sent
Against Pelagian error, he commands
The raging sea to rest. St. Alban's lent 840

Its plain for the dispute. In warlike art
Not less expert, he made the Britons rout
The Saxon army ; while the hills to part
With thunder seem'd at th' Alleluia shout.

END OF THE FOURTH BOOK.

BOOK V.

August.
1.
Lammas.

ON Lammas-day a *loaf* at *mass* was laid
On solemn altars by our fathers good,
Who thus the first-fruits of the harvest paid
To Him whose bounty had the year renew'd.

The Seven
MACCABEES,
with their
Mother;
Martyrs.

Ere yet His Son appeared, the Maccabees, 5
With their heroic mother, seeing Him
By faith afar, confest in agonies
A better resurrection, when each limb,

Now quivering in torment, should revive,
And help to fashion an immortal frame.— 10
The prince of the apostles, thrust alive
Into the Tullian dungeon, which became

St. Peter's
Chains.

The basis of a church this day devote,
Is honour'd here with all his glorious chains.
Lord! be Thy mercy ne'er from us remote, 15
But free our souls from clog of guilty stains.

2.
STEPHEN,
Bishop of Rome,
and Martyr;
267.

Call'd by St. Lucius, as he went to death,
His seat to fill, lo! Stephen's short career
Next day was ended; when his latest breath
For Christ he gave, and enter'd heav'n's great year. 20

AUGUST. Within him) in his ground be burial due 45
 Gave Stephen's martyr'd form,—then near it soon
 Himself reposed, and Nicodemus too,
 In hope assured of heav'n's eternal noon.

4. Descending now to later days, behold
 DOMINIC, The high-born Guzman an unhappy age 50
 Founder of the Illustrate with his virtues. When the fold
 Friar-Precursors; Of Christ was rent, and men began to rage
 1221.

Against each other for the love of God,
 This saint would bear of no converting might
 But prayer, tears, watching, the self-scourging rod, 55
 Fasting, and patience, and the holy might

Of gospel-preaching. While the armies fought
 He prayed within the fortress-church, and so
 Gain'd souls to heav'n,—the guerdon which he sought
 With zealous hope's unmitigated glow. 60

This lamp of prayer was fed by lowliness :
 A town when ent'ring, on the pavement fall'n
 He begg'd of God that vengeance on the place
 By so great sinner's coming be not drawn.

5. But sinners ever Jesus loved to save ; 65
 AFRA, As Afra shows ; who lived in infamy,
 and her Mother But found His grace sufficient to engrave
 and Servants, New hopes and fears, which sin's infirmity
 Martyrs ;
 304.

AUGUST. For ever banish. Call'd to sacrifice,
 "I will not add new sins to old," she cried, 70
 "Nor do what you command : my constant sighs
 Have sought this day ; when He, my crucified

And gracious Lord, this vile and sinful frame
 Will deign receive." The heathen judge, her sins
 Upbraiding, said she could not favour claim 75
 From Christ or Christians, and with threats begins

To try her courage : "In thy lover's sight
 Whipt thou shalt be, and then in flames expire."
 'Twas done : her mother and three maids her fight
 Witnest, and glutted too the heathens' ire. 80

6.
Transfiguration. Now on the holy mount we Jesus see,
 With none to witness His celestial rays
 But Peter, James, and John ; the favor'd three
 Who on His agony should after gaze.

His nightly prayer begun, His countenance 85
 Was changed to solar splendour, and above
 All earthly whiteness did His raiment glance ;
 And Moses and Elias for His love

Left their high seats of glory, to discourse
 Of His approaching Passion ; but the three 90
 Sank down asleep beneath th' o'erwhelming force
 Of heav'nly light, such as shall ever be

AUGUST. The portion of His chosen, who obey
 The voice from that bright cloud, and *hear the Son,*
 And feel it *good to be with Him.* Delay 95
 But fits them for their crown, the race once run.

7.
Name of
JESUS. Next, in the English Kalendar, is note
 Of JESUS, His blest name, all names above ;
 And fitly we the holy record quote
 The sweet attractions of that name to prove. 100

“Did not we straitly charge you,” the priest said,
 “That in this Name ye should not teach ?” But then
 St. Peter and th’ apostles answered,
 “We must our God obey rather than men.”

Beaten, and charged anew that in that name 105
 They should not speak, they left that council base,
 Rejoicing that for Him to suffer shame
 They were accounted worthy : in each place,

Common or sacred, they unwav’ring taught,
 And preacht the Saviour-God, th’ Anointed One. 110
 O Father, in these faithless days may naught
 Make us ashamed still to confess Thy Son !

8.
CYRIAC, &c. ;
Martyr ;
303.

Cyriac a holy deacon was ; and Rome,
 The city where he minister’d, soon saw
 His glorious exit to a heav’nly home 115
 With twenty victim-friends, by cruel law

AUGUST.

Of Dioclesian.—Nor did th' eastern clime
Less favour Christians with the martyr's crown.

HORMISDAS,
Persian, M.

Hormisdas gain'd it, who among the prime
Of Persia's nobles flourisht, but laid down 120

His honours, and as dress for Christ survey'd.
Deprived of office, credit, goods,—his dress
Torn from him,—and a camel-driver made,
Ev'n from the tyrant's self his sore distress

Some pity gain'd, and once a tunic won 125
To shield his frame; but the prince tempting said,
“Renounce the carpenter's and Mary's son :”
He tore the tunic, scorning hell-sent aid.

9
ROMANUS,
Martyr;
258.

On great St. Lawrence' eve we notice take
Of one who saw his pains and constancy, 130
Embraced the faith, and askt the saint to make
One Christian more ere he himself should die.

Thus did the good archdeacon wash away
Romanus' sins in baptism's saving flood,
Who boldly owning Christ, was doom'd to pay 135
The forfeit of his life, and went to God

Before his guide and teacher. Tibur's road
Received his headless frame, which soon was ta'en
From thence to Lucca, and in pomp is stow'd
'Neath the high altar of a beauteous fane. 140

AUGUST. Great was the force, O God ! of holy lives
 To turn from darkness and from Satau's pow'r.
 O grant Thy grace to ev'ry soul that strives
 To follow Thee in sore temptation's hour

10.
 LAWRENCE,
 MARTYR;
 258.

Like holy Lawrence : who to Xystus said, 145
 " Why go'st to martyrdom without thy son,
 Without thy deacon, holy priest, why led ?
 Never alone thou sacrifice hast done."

The Pontiff answer'd, " Greater triumphs wait
 Thee stout and young. Meantime among the poor 150
 The treasures of the church distribute straight,
 Lest persecutors rob them of their store."

The sacred vessels then th' archdeacon sold ;
 And when the prefect from his hands required
 The precious spoil, " Three days," he answer'd bold, 155
 " Give me to set in order our desired

And valued treasure." Then the Church's poor
 He sought throughout the city : the third light
 Saw them array'd before the sacred door,
 Decrepit, lame, and maim'd, deprived of sight, 160

Lepers and widows, and the virgin-choir.
 " Is't thus," the prefect, roused to fury, cried,
 " Our sacred fasces are insulted ? Liar,
 Who thus thy promise keepst, thou shalt be tried

AUGUST. By ling'ring torments" Soon the grate was brought, 165
 And half-extinguisht coals beneath it cast.
 There Lawrence, stript and bound, his God^t besought
 For Rome's conversion ; which with wondrous haste

11.
 TIBURTIVS,
 Martyr ;
 286.
 Follow'd the martyr's prayer,—but not till more,
 His lessen copying, past the bloody way 170
 To endless joy, that so the holy pow'r
 Of Jesus' cross might show its sov'reign sway

SUSANNA,
 Virgin-Martyr ;
 304.
 O'er human hearts—Susanna, maiden blest,
 Graces next day ; and young Tiburtius, son
 Of one who his lost health again possest 175
 When plunged within the fount whose waters run

12.
 EUPLIVS,
 Martyr ;
 304.
 For healing of the nations.—Sicily
 Next of them all her martyr boasts, a youth
 Who in Catana's city constantly
 Fulfill'd the deacon's part, and gospel-truth 180

Read to the people. Seized, and brought before
 The Prætor, he cried out, " A Christian I,
 Who seek no better fate than for the pow'r
 And name of Jesus Christ to gladly die."

"The gospels in thy hand," the Prætor said, 185
 "Read something from them." Straight the martyr
 found,
 "Blest who for justice pains have suffered:"
 "Take up the cross and follow me."—"Expound

AUGUST.

This sentence strange."—"It is my Lord's own law
 To me delivered." On the rack then laid, 190
 Increasing torments proved him; and men saw
 His lips still move in prayer, as strength decay'd.

But still severer were the pains that tried
 The next day's martyr, who his name declared
 Hippolytus : "Then like his namesake," cried 195
 The prefect, "use him." Straight the crowd repair'd

13.
 HIPPOLYTUS,
 Martyr;
 252.

Where untamed horses were in plenty found,
 And chose the two most furious : tied to these
 The martyr lay ; and soon they madden'd bound
 O'er woods, briers, rocks, man's vengeance to 200
 appease.

CASSIAN,
 Martyr.

Of Cassian, too, an untried way to death
 This day relates. A schoolmaster was he,
 Whose pupils, by the tyrant bidden, sheathe
 Their styles within him (slow barbarity !)

Naked exposed among them : some his flesh 205
 Cut with their penknives, some the quiv'ring skin
 Tear from him, and each wound make bleed afresh
 Till nature sinks, and endless joys begin.

14.
 EUSEBIUS,
 Priest and
 Martyr;
 end of 3rd
 Century.

Among "the noble army" next enroll'd
 A priest we see ; whose venerable mien, 210
 As of undaunted faith it sweetly told,
 Moved e'en Maximian's brutal self when seen.

AUGUST. "Old man!" the emp'ror cried, "why com'st thou here?
 Speak freely, and my questions answer: so
 Shalt thou be saved, and I thine age will clear 215
 From all suspicion." But the priest said, "Know,

O pow'rful monarch, that thou mortal art,
 And I before thee must the truth avow
 Thine officer hath heard: my inmost heart
 To wood and stones refuses down to bow." 220

"What harm," Maximian said, "if this old man
 His fancied god should inwardly adore?"
 But, hearing Jesus' name, full soon began
 To leave him to the law's vindictive pow'r.

15.
 Assumption of
 B. V. M.

Mother of God! this day to thee devote 225
 Recals thy transit to the heav'nly joys,
 And consummates each pure and holy thought
 That on thy other festivals employs

Our wond'ring minds. Now all th' angelic band,
 Stand forth to meet thee, and with smiles exclaim, 230
 "Who cometh up from earth's bare desert land,
 Leaning on her Beloved, her soul on flame

To be for ever with Him, whom she bore
 Within her favour'd womb, who prest His lips
 Upon her virgin-bosom?" Now no more, 235
 O queen of heav'n! thou suffer'st dim eclipse

N

AUGUST

But look'st forth as the morn, tread'st on the moon,
 And with the sun art clad, like banner'd host
 Terribly glorious,—on thy head a crown
 Of twelve clear stars ;—such honours are engrost 240

By her in whom the heav'nly king delights.—
 From heav'n-gate now return we to the earth
 And view St. Hyacinth, who nobly fights
 'Gainst idols and Mahound, and of the north

16.
 HYACINTH;
 Priest and
 Confessor;
 1257.

Is call'd Apostle. City of the Poles, 245
 Cracovia! Thy licentious people knew
 His preaching's power: Thy story him enrols
 One of Thy benefactors: Prussia too,

And Pomerania; Gedan's almost isle
 (Then desert, but the royal Dantzic's tow'rs 250
 Have since uprisen): trav'ling many a mile,
 To Danes, Swedes, Goths, Norwegians, he the pow'rs

ROCHE,
 Confessor;
 14th c.

Display'd of coming worlds.—St. Roche this day
 Is honor'd too, who served Placentia's sick
 'Mid pestilence, and caught the plague: away 255
 Into the forest crawls he: the dogs lick

17.
 MAMAS,
 Martyr;
 275.

His sores.
 "A shepherd-boy—no better name
 He seeks" in this world's annals—next we praise;
 Who suffer'd persecution's cruel flame,
 And early sought and wore the martyr's bays. 260

AUGUST.
LIBERATUS,
and Six
Companions,
Martyrs;
483.

He from the heathen won them ; but the sev'n,
Who later down in time this same day grace,
Thro' Arian Vandals found the path to heav'n,
Nor would for flatt'ring promises deface

Christ's glorious mark upon their foreheads borne. 265
"One Lord, one faith, one baptism," was their cry:
"Do with our bodies as you please ; forlorn
Will soon be all who with the world comply."

Placed in an old frail ship with dry sticks fill'd,
And tied to these like Isaac to his pile,— 270
The fire refused to Huneric to yield,
Whose butchers' hands the martyrs' blood doth soil.

18.
HELEN,
Empress, Mother
of
Constantine the
Great ;
328.

This next day died great Helena, who drew
Her earliest breath 'mid our loved England's downs :
Colchester boasts her birth, rememb'ring too 275
Her finding of the Rood ; for still the town's

Armorial bearings are a knotty cross
Between four diadems. Tho' later brought
To Christ than Constantine, no sinful loss
Of time, like his, she knew ; nor safer thought 280

Her baptism to defer, but straight began
To edify by bright example's lure
The holy Church ; which he, imperial man !
Did aggrandize, and from despised and poor

AUGUST. To rich and great exalted. From this time, 285
 Of wooden chalices no more we read,
 But golden; but the priests with av'rice' crime
 Are stain'd. Come, Saviour, who for us didst bleed,

And scourge it from the temple !

19.
 AGAPIUS,
 THECLA, and
 TIMOTHY,
 Martyrs;
 304.

Martyrs three

We next enrol, 'neath Dioclesian's pow'r 290
 In Palestine who suffer'd. Timothy
 The tort'ring scourge endured, and combs which tore

His panting side, till slow-consuming flame
 His martyrdom complete. Agapius then
 And Thecla next to Cæsarea came, 295
 Condemn'd to beasts fresh-raging from the den

To be exposed. The weaker vessel fell
 So massacred : the strong unhurt remained
 For future conflict ; two years more in cell
 Shut up, till Maximin, who reign'd 300

Then o'er the empire, orders gave that he
 Should some high festival as victim grace,
 Or faith abjure : torn by a bear,—the sea
 His wounded limbs received, nor show'd a trace ;

20.
 BERNARD,
 1153.

But still the martyr's record is above.— 305
 Last of the Fathers, who excell'd them all
 In sweetness, and the fire of holy love !
 Thee next we honour, and as festival

AUGUST. The day record when thy pure soul its flight
 Took to that heav'n for which thou pantedst long, 310
 And sigh'dst to be with Him in glory bright
 Whom here thou lovedst tho' unseen. Thy tongue

Here spake of Jesus, and the air grew mild,
 Storms lost their power, and factions droopt the wing :
 Thy words were soft as whispers of a child, 315
 And yet of force to stir each hero-king.

Thou *wrotest* of Jesus, and the Church receives
 With grateful joy and recollection sweet
 Each precious sentence ; and her holy leaves
 Abound with such, for high devotion meet. 320

21.
 BONOSUS
 and
 MAXIMILIAN,
 Martyrs ;
 363.

When Julian struck the holy Cross and Name
 From out the standards of the Roman lines,
 His namesake uncle raged with hotter flame
 Against the Christians : "Change your pictured signs,"

Was his command. Bonosus meek replied, 325
 "We cannot worship gods by men's hands made."
 Instant the scourge was on him, and each side
 Plough'd by the leathern thong, with balls of lead

Loaded : to Maximilian next the same
 Command was issued. "Let your gods first hear 330
 And speak," he said, "and we their pow'r and name
 Will worship ; but we Christians may not fear

AUGUST. Deaf and dumb idols." On the rack then placed,
 And plunged in boiling pitch, no pain they felt,—
 Next were beheaded. Soon did Julian taste 335
 Judgments of God with awful strictness dealt.

22.
 SYMPHORIAN,
 Martyr;
 178.
 Ere yet the gospel had borne fruit in Gaul,
 Cybéle's festival at Autun brought
 Worshipping crowds: her statue, with rich pall [340
 Adorn'd, was carried through the streets, and nought

Omitted that could set the idol forth.
 Symphorian fail'd t' adore it, and soon stood
 Before Heraclius: consular his worth,
 And high his office, and he then pursued

The grateful task of calling to account 345
 Recusant Christians. "Wherefore," said he then,
 "Cybéle, her whose womb has been the fount
 Of heavenly pow'rs, most obstinate of men,

Refusest thou t' adore?" Symphorian said, [350
 "The God who reigns in heav'n, and none but Him,
 I worship." Bruised with clubs,—at last his head
 Fell by the sword; but now th' angelic chime

23.
 CLAUDIUS, &c.,
 Martyr;
 285.
 He glorious joins.—Cilicia next her sons
 Pours for the combat, and her daughters too;
 Five by the cruel Lysias sent at once 355
 To Martyrs death, but first in public view

AUGUST. Stript, bound, and tortured. Claudius first was torn
 With iron hooks, and broken potsherds : fire
 Then closed the brutal work. Asterius, born
 Of the same mother, in like torments dire 360

His Lord confest ; nor shrinking from the same,
 Neon his brethren's constancy admired
 And follow'd. Then Domnina came,
 And Theonilla, who full soon expired

With shame and agony. The sea received 365
 Their corpses, but without the town the three
 Brothers, like Him in whom they had believed,
 Were crucified, a blest conformity !

24.
 BARTHOLOMEW, " An Isr'elite indeed, in whom is found
 OF
 NATHANAEL, No guile," the lips of Truth pronounced this saint; 370
 Apostle. Blest honour ! before which all earth's great round
 Produces waxeth pale, diseased, and faint !

Brought by St. Philip to the Saviour's feet,
 And ever named with him companion dear,
 Till, sever'd from him by allotment meet, 375
 Each went to preach the cross in sep'rate sphere ;

Again at Hierapolis they met,
 No more to see each other face to face
 Till each upon his glorious throne shall sit
 Judging the tribes of Isr'el's chosen race. 380



AUGUST. Nathanael last into Armenia went,
 Where, preaching 'mid a den of idols foul,
 His skin was flay'd from off him, punishment
 Of all most dire ! and heav'n received his soul.

25.
 LOUIS IX.,
 King of France;
 1270. Train'd by a pious mother, the great king 385
 Call'd, when a boy, to France's glorious throne,
 Prepared himself, by fervent prayer, to bring
 Blessings upon his people, and his crown

To truly consecrate ; nor fail'd his God
 To hear his supplications, but conferr'd 390
 True wisdom, heav'nly ardour, and the rod
 Of strictest justice. Ev'ry day he heard

The holy office, but neglected not
 His high-state duties. Brought to the grave's brink,
 He vow'd, if heal'd, the bold crusader's lot ;— 395
 And many a Saracen to lightly think

Of that faith ceased, which wrought in Louis' life
 Such holy meekness, suff'rance, and all good.
 This was his solace when the sacred strife
 Of warriors fail'd, for evil lives subdued. 400

26.
 GENESIVS
 and
 GELATIUS,
 Martyrs ;
 about 300. Kings, bishops, virgins, all have graced our page,
 Which shows them dying for Christ's holy name
 Or living to His glory. Who engage
 Next our attention ? Hear, and let red shame

AUGUST. Mantle our cheeks : two wretched heathen play'rs, 405
 Tought by His grace, were led to bloody deaths.—
 'Mid other joys which wicked Rome prepares
 For Dioclesian's entry, the hired breaths

Of histrionic men must needs profane
 The Christian baptism, acted on the stage 410
 To please admiring crowds ; but ne'er again
 Those two would scorn their Saviour, but the rage

Of all provoked, and said the mimic stream
 Had made them His. With clubs Genesius straight
 Was beaten first, then rackt and giv'n to flame. 415
 The other, sorrowing only that so late

The Lord he knew, a shower of stones received.—
 Cæsarius next we hail, who early showed
 Tokens of saintship, giving the bereaved
 His clothes while yet a child ; so warmly glowed 420

27.
 CÆSARIUS,
 Archbishop of
 Arles ;
 542.

Within his youthful bosom Christ's own love.
 At twice nine years the world he left ; and when
 Six lustres had passed o'er him vainly strove
 Against the call of Arles, which of all men

Him fittest deemed Evagrius to succeed, 425
 Her bishop, who, on recent death-bed laid,
 Had named him for the office. Thence to plead
 The cause of God unceasingly he made

AUGUST. Vig'rous attempts: he urged his flock to prayer,
 Semipelagian subtleties subdued, 430
 Built hospitals, the Church's vessels rare
 Sold for her members' wants, all poor and rude.

Broken with age's pains, he askt *how near*
Was great St. Austin's day; "For then," he said,
 "I fain would die; whose doctrine I revere!" 435
 His wish was granted, and his record laid

28.
 AUGUSTIN,
 Bishop of
 Hippo;
 430.

Next to that glorious saint's, whom councils, popes,
 And all the Church, e'er since he went to rest,
 As next th' apostles rev'rence; and her hopes
 No higher soar than once more to be blest, 440

In these her waning days, with men like him
 To guide her members. Volumes should we need
 To speak his praises, and so will not dim
 His glories by curtailment, but proceed

29.
 Decollation of
 SAINT JOHN
 BAPTIST.

(After one lowly sigh for that blest *grace* 445
 Which found in him illustrious champion true)
 To thee, great martyr-Baptist! whom we trace
 Forerunner of Christ's birth and passion too.

The day-star ushers in the glorious sun,
 Then sinks to rest, its duteous labour o'er: 450
 Thus, greatest-born of women! now are done
 Thine arduous toils: in desert now no more

AUGUST. Thou feed'st on locusts, and with camel's hair
 Art clad, and leather round thy loins dost gird,
 Friend of the Church's Bridegroom ! to prepare 455
 Whose way thou camest, but might'st not have deferr'd

Thy span of life to see His work achieved,
 But fell'st a victim to a harlot's lust
 And vengeance, who thy sacred head received
 (Horrible dish !) 'mid banquet's mutual trust. 460

Saint, prophet, martyr, virgin, all in one !
 Thou showd'st His rising who the world should bless
 With mid-day brightness of its mental sun :
 May we His purest love at heart possess !

30.
FELIX
 and
ADAUCTUS,
 Martyrs ;
 303.

Felix, a priest of Rome, his *happy* name 465
 Illustrated with virtues, nor in death
 Belied it, but a road to martyr-fame
 Thro' cruel-torments found, with latest breath

Confessing Christ : as the procession moved,
 A stranger, Christian too, but who before 470
 Had thought of no such fiery trial, loved
 The suff'ring Felix, and accounted more

To be desired an end like his than life
 With coward-safety. " I confess the law,"
 He loud exclaimed, " which guides this hero's strife 475
 And am, like him, a Christian : O then, draw

AUGUST.

"Me with him to the scaffold." He obtained
 His wish, his name not known, but soon was called
Adauctus, as a martyr *join'd* and gain'd
 To Felix, and in white-robed choir install'd. 480

31.
 AIDAN,
 Bishop of
 Lindisfarne;
 651

When Oswald over fierce Cadwalla gain'd
 A glorious victory, his thanks he show'd
 By straight determining in Saxon land
 The Church to plant. The King of Scots bestow'd

At first, when by his royal brother moved, 485
 A bishop who, austere and rough, could nought
 Effect, but blamed the English churls, who loved
 Nothing, he said, but rudeness, and to thought

Were foes : a Scottish synod then was call'd,
 And Aidan told the unsuccessful man 490
 In him the error lay, who men, enthrall'd
 By ignorance, should have by milder plan

Tried to allure. "Then take," the synod said,
 "The part thyself, for thou'rt with prudence graced."
 Oswald received him as in heart and head 495
 Alike excelling, peaceful, loving, chaste,

And humble, who the barb'rous people soon
 Would tame ; and gave him Lindisfarne for see :
 O'er all the churches of the north his throne
 Upheld him, till at length the cemet'ry 500

AUGUST. Of Holy Isle received his mortal frame,—
 First burial in that place so full of saints
 In after ages.

SEPTEMBER.
 1.
 GILES, Abbot;
 about 700.

Giles's holy name
 We next revere, who justly his complaints

May pour, and curses on the Moray-land 505
 Bring down, for Elgin's sacred arches long
 In ruins laid by puritanic hand.
 And sure 'twould seem as if his vengeance strong

The deed resented, for the ship that bore
 The sacrilegious freight its port ne'er gain'd, 510
 But sank, while yet in sight of Scotia's shore,
 With all its crew. St. Giles has yet remain'd

Fair Elgin's patron; and her shield still bears
 His arms stretcht out, and *to the stars the way*
 Commending, which he trod, the deadly snares 515
 Of earth escaping. Watch like him and pray,

2.
 JUSTUS,
 Archbishop of
 Lyons;
 about 390.

All who would hither soar.—Of kindred mind,
Just both in name and character, was he
 Whom next we honour; nor was long confined
 To deacon's functions, but the primacy 520

Of Lyons soon obtain'd. Nothing but God
 Fearing, and hoping nought but heavenly joy,
 Too heavy for his humble soul the load
 He felt, and after thirty years' employ

SEPTEMBER. Resign'd it.

3.
REMACIUS,
 Bishop of
 Maestricht;
 about 665.

Next a holy pastor see, 525
 Who left the court to study Scripture-lore;
 But, soon recall'd by royal wisdom, he
 Preacht to his people, and relieved the poor.

Sighing, like Justus, 'neath the crushing weight
 Of outward things, and fearing to forget 530
 The one thing needful, he too left his state,
 And gather'd round him, as in gospel-net,

A few poor lowly souls, who nothing loved
 But God and virtue, and the heav'nly crown:
 These on his death-bed he devoutly moved 535
 To poverty, renouncing of their own,

And strict obedience, patience under pain,
 The heart kept fixt on heav'n, yet humble too,
 And constant peace: "These things," said he, "are gain
 In Christ: such souls at length shall all subdue." 540

4.
MARCELLUS
 and
VALERIAN,
 Martyrs;
 170.

Marcellus and Valerian long had proved
 This maxim's truth, who 'neath an Antonine
 The martyr's crown obtained, and Him they loved
 Confest. Aurelius could well define

True virtue's limits, but he saw it not 545
 In suff'ring Christians. Meditations good
 He wrote, but left upon his name the blot
 Of persecution. When its fiery flood

SEPTEMBER. Roll'd over Lyons, these two martyrs blest
 Escaped its fury ; but Marcellus, soon 550
 Near Challons found, in earth up to his breast
 Was buried, three days ling'ring ere the boon

Of martyrdom he gain'd : Valerian, torn
 With iron hooks, and rackt, his head laid down
 Upon the block :—thus into new life born, 555
 They left the world, and wear the heav'nly crown.

6.
 LAWRENCE
 JUSTINIAN,
 1st Patriarch of
 Venice;
 1455.

Of noble birth on sire's and mother's side,
 Lawrence not long the care of both enjoy'd ;
 But, yet a child when his great father died,
 The careful lady's culture then employ'd. 560

Nought loved he but what savour'd straight of heav'n ;
 And she, suspecting some ambitious seed
 In boy to no young sport or pleasure giv'n,
 Often for so high aim her offspring chid.

But he : " No aim, O mother, do I know 565
 But this ; to live to Him whose bounteous hand
 Brought me from nothing, and to whom I go
 For ever when I quit this earthly strand."

His life like this beginning,—he was made
 Bishop of Venice, and the patriarchate 570
 For his sake giv'n. On straw he last was laid,
 And so past hence to the eternal state.

SEPTEMBER. Pambo of Nitria to St. Anthony

6.
PAMBO,
of Nitria.
385.

In youth himself betook for counsel wise.
The blessed hermit said, "Perpetually 575
In penance strict for thine iniquities

See that thou live ; subdue thy self-conceit ;
No trust in thy own righteousness be placed ;
But ever watch, and thy restraints repeat
From day to day on tongue, and eyes, and taste." 580

With equal fervour all these precepts loved
St. Pambo, or with special zeal his tongue
Subdued. A monk once, at his asking, moved
T' advise him, 'gan the holy David's song,

"I said, I will be watchful o'er my ways, 585
That I offend not in my tongue." "Enough,"
St. Pambo said : "I'll suffer no delays
Till this be well acquired, for 'tis a rough

And arduous task ; but he who has the heart
May well be saved."—On holy death-bed laid, 590
"E'er since," said he, "I to this desert came,
And built my cell, for daily bread I've paid

By daily labour, nor have spoken word
I afterward regretted ; yet I go
As one who never yet to serve the Lord 595
Has well begun ; but heav'n the way will show."

SEPTEMBER.

7.
CLOUD,
560.

First saint among th' old princely race of France,
St. Cloud did his usurping uncle's sword
Escape, and thankful straight the world renounce,
And vow to live for ever to the Lord. 600

Occasions many were before him set
Of gaining back the kingdom, but he saw
That worldly greatness is a dang'rous net,
And earth's gain damage, by the Christian law.

8.
Nativity of
B.V.M.

Joy and salvation near, announced this day, 605
A special tribute of remembrance ask ;
For, lo ! that holy form, of purest clay,
From which the world's Redeemer on His task

Must enter, this blest morn to light arose ;
From sin's contagion free, and fit t' enshrine 610
The God of God, and Light of Light, our foes
Who humbled thus would conquer. O divine

And human Saviour ! Son of God and seed
Of woman ! who can love Thee, and not feel
All rev'rence for the Virgin blest, decreed 615
To be Thy Mother ? Hearts of stone and steel

Who meltest, O rebuke this scoffing age !
For sure no heav'nly faith can flourish, where
Such tender myst'ries no respect engage.
Mother of God, may we Thy glory share ! 620

o

SEPTEMBER. Let not the eunuch say, "A wither'd tree
 9. Am I," Isaiah thus of old did sing :
 GORGONIOUS, DOROTHEUS, &c.,
 Martyrs; "For those who choose the thing that pleaseth me,
 304. Jehovah saith, My sacred walls within

A better name than daughters or than sons 625
 Shall have." Lo ! this day sees the verse fulfil'd,
 When eunuchs three to martyrdom at once
 Were dragg'd, and with horrific tortures kill'd.

OMER, More peaceful ages, the same day to grace,
 Bishop; Furnish St. Omer's name, whom Dagobert 630
 370. Sought out as fittest in each darkling place
 (Where vice and error found a ready mart)

Of Flanders, Artois, Lower Picardy,
 The faith to preach, and souls to heaven gain :
 This arduous work he did successfully, 635
 And thousand Pagans cleansed from idols' stain.

10. The next day's martyrs memorable shine
 NEMESIANUS, and many others; For letter which St. Cyprian to them wrote ;
 Martyrs and Confessors in the Nor better can we raise our humble line
 8th general persecution. Than if his glowing words we rev'rent quote. 640

"What tho' with clubs you're beaten !" saith the saint;
 "Christ's servants see in *wood* salvation's sign :
 Loathsome and vile your bodies are for want
 Of bathing, but the soul is pure within.

SEPTEMBER. Scanty and coarse your bread, but man lives not 645
 By bread alone, but by the word divine:
 Few clothes you have ; but what so rich a coat
 As Christ, put on ? Nay, you may well resign

Yourselves to that severest law which priests
 Forbids to come, and th' holy Victim rear ; 650
 For never will our God deny requests
 Offer'd by hearts all contrite and sincere."

11.
 PAPHNUTIUS,
 Bishop in Upper
 Thebais ;
 4th century.
 "If thy right eye offend thee pluck it out,
 And cast it from thee," the meek Saviour said :
 Paphnutius and his brethren easy thought 655
 The sacrifice, and 'neath the tyrant dread

Maximin Daia all their right eyes lost,
 And ham-strung too were sent in mines to toil.
 Soon as the Church, no longer to be tost
 On persecution's billows, but with oil 660

Of temp'ral gladness blest, "her mitred head
 In courts uprear'd," the saint t' his flock return'd,
 And, when the Arian error 'gan to spread,
 All timid base accommodation spurn'd.

Not such his zeal in non-essential things ; 665
 For, when the Nicene Fathers thought to make
 A gen'ral law 'gainst clergy's communings
 With wives whom they had thought it good to take

SEPTEMBER.

Before their ordination, he opposed, 670
 And brought the council to his prudent mind.
 By sense like this would many a rent be closed
 Which men to widen now seem most inclined.

12.
 Guido, or Guy,
 called the Poor
 Man of
 Anderlecht;
 beginning of
 11th century.

St. Guy was born near Brussels ; and his sire
 And mother were both meanly poor, but good :
 Free from the world's unhallow'd mad desire 675
 To raise our station, they were both subdued

To blest contentment, nor repined because
 They could not give school-learning to their son ;
 But deem'd that if they taught him Christ's own laws
 The highest meed of glory might be won. 680

Soon as he found his state was that which He,
 The Friend of sinners, willingly had ta'en,
 He joy'd in the allotment, smilingly
 Sustain'd the beadle's office, in this plain

And lowly function fear'd the praise of man, 685
 And did severest penance for what most
 Would count no faults at all ;—so diff'rent plan
 Of gaining heav'n has saints and world engrost!

13.
 EULOGIUS,
 Patriarch of
 Alexandria;
 608.

Native of Syria, where th' Eutychnian sects
 Confused the churches, and engender'd vice, 690
 Eulogius, wise from others' fall, directs
 His aim by holy doctrine, which at Nice

SEPTEMBER. Had been establish'd, and which he adorn'd
 In all things : of the great St. Gregory
 A friend he was, and they together warn'd 695
 The Church, and now in heav'n's felicity

AMATUS,
 Bishop of Sion,
 about the end of
 the 7th cent. Her health implore.—A St. Amatus next
 The same day shows, *beloved* of God and men
 But by the earliest *Fainéant* monarch vex'd,
 And from his see expell'd.
 In order then 700

14.
 Exaltation of the
 Holy Cross The Exaltation of the Cross we sing ;
 The Cross, by which the world is crucified
 To us, and we to it, e'er since our heav'nly king
 Hath blest its wood, and on it groan'd and died.

Thou saidst, O Lord, if Thou uplifted wert, 705
 'Thou all wouldst draw unto Thee : O fulfil
 The gracious promise, nor by our desert,
 (Unfaithful wretches !) but Thy mercy still

Thy dealings guide : the world, Lord, is not drawn,
 But yet resists Thy grace : cast out its prince, 710
 And hasten thro' its bounds the rising dawn
 Of Thy blest empire : so that world convince

Of sin, and righteousness, and judgment. Lord !
 By that blest wood whence righteousness doth grow
 Heal all our errors : let Thy cross adored 715
 Our roving end, and save from endless woe.

SEPTEMBER.

15.

NICETAS,
Martyr ;
4th cent.

A Gothic martyr next our homage claims,
 Nicetas, whom the Greeks have *Megas* call'd :
 Born near the mighty Danube's banks, the flames
 Of sin he early vanquisht, disenthral'd 720

From Satan's empire, and Christ's easy yoke
 In baptism taking. When Athanaric,
 King of the eastern Goths, relentless broke
 The peace of nations, and his order quick

Proclaim'd that in a chariot thro' all towns 725
 Where Christians lived an idol should be ta'en,
 And all who would not fear the tyrant's frowns,
 And worship it, should instantly be slain,—

Nicetas, with his brethren dear enclosed,
 A victim to the raging flames was giv'n : 730
 Thus, to the fiery test of faith exposed,
 He shared Christ's suff'rings, and now shares His heav'n.

16.

CORNELIUS,
Bishop of Rome
and Martyr ;
252.

When holy Fabian to his death had gone,
 Vacant for sixteen months the chair remain'd
 Of Peter,—so intensely hurried on 735
 His work vile Decius, and his annals stain'd

With persecution ; but at length from Rome
 Removed, and taken up with distant wars,—
 The Church found breathing-time in this her home,
 And chose Cornelius, whom the glorious scars 740

SEPTEMBER.

CYPRIAN,
Archbishop of
Carthage,
& Martyr;
258.

Of martyrdom alike have graced. The great
St. Cyprian calls him a meek, modest man,
Who thro' the humbler grades at gentle rate
Had gone, and fain would have declined the van

Of Christian honour, but when duly raised 745
Shrank from no task, but the Novatian pride
Condemn'd with sixty prelates.—To be praised
By men who have themselves been magnified

By love of ages is a goodly boon :
Such Cyprian is; who left pomp, wealth, and pow'r, 750
For Jesus and the cross, and who full soon
Follow'd Cornelius, the same day and hour,

But six years after, suff'ring martyrdom.
Blest saint, whose works, more glorious than the sun,
Teach harmony and love, and gather home 755
To Jesus' feet, in happy unison,

The lapsed and stray'd.
In Maestricht's holy shrine
Lie Lambert's relics, who its see adorn'd,
But, driv'n to exile, let his virtues shine
In humblest convent's circle, where he scorn'd 760

17.
LAMBERT,
Bishop of
Maestricht and
Martyr;
709.

No strict obedience. Afterwards restored,—
His zeal for th' house of God procured his death :
O that Thy saints' examples, gracious Lord !
Might modern bishops move to yield their breath

SEPTEMBER. For Thee, or ev'n their honours to resign 765

Rather than hold them on the world's bad terms.

St. Jerom, who such bishops would incline

To rate severely, with his voice confirms

18.
METHODIUS,
Bishop of Tyre,
and Martyr;
312.

The Church's judgment of Methodius, who 770
First of Olympus, then of Tyre the charge
Held, and whose writings in their remnants show
(Preserved by Fathers in quotations large,)

How vig'rously he heresy opposed,

And high virginity did warm commend.—

FERREOL,
Martyr;
about 300.

Another martyr's fame this day disclosed,— 775
Ferreol, a Roman tribune, who his end

Met, (after rods and chains, and wond'rous flight

From prison,) near Vienne, whose people soon

Learn'd to revere him when they found the might

Of holy prayers for many a gracious boon 780

19.
JANUARIUS,
Bishop of
Benevento,
and his
Companions,
Martyrs;
305.

At his tomb offer'd.—A like grace attends

The shrine of Januarius, when the fire

Of dread Vesuvius overflowing rends

The solid rocks, and tim'rous herds retire

Before the lava-flood: then prostrate all 785

The people pray, and God inclines His ear,

Bids the eruption cease, and lifts the pall

Of lurid vapour, that the skies appear.

SEPTEMBER. To holy charity a victim fell
 This saint, and freely his imprison'd flock 790
 Visited in their dungeons, each sad cell
 Filling with Christian joy, and firm as rock

Exhorting them to be. With them at last
 Exposed to savage beasts, which nought could move
 To touch the martyrs, all exulting past 795
 By bloody axe to seats of kindred-love.

20.
 EUSTACE and
 his Wife
 and Sons,
 Martyrs in the
 time of Adrian. Eustace, with wife and sons, together past
 To bliss in Adrian's reign, and left behind
 A name for charity renown'd : the blast
 Of persecutions cannot chill the mind 800

AGAPETUS,
 Bishop of Rome;
 536. Of saints to selfishness, but love's glow fan.—
 This day, too, Agapetus' blest remains
 Were brought to Rome, and at the Vatican
 Interr'd. He wiped away the stains

Dioscorus had made, opposed the will 805
 Of impure Theodora, who the see
 Of Great Byzantium would wrongly fill
 With Anthimus, who in duplicity

For Catholic would pass, while enemy
 To the great council at Chalcedon call'd ; 810
 And, rather than subscribe its canons, he
 To Trebizond went back, nor was install'd

SEPTEMBER. Chief of the Greeks. The Pope's bold constant mind
Baffled Eutychian rage.

21. Recede we next
MATTHEW, To th' apostolic time, and wond'ring find 815
Apostle and
Evangelist. Christ calling Levi from the seat perplext

Of customary tribute to a throne
Among the twelve : his grateful love prepared
A num'rous feast, nor would austere disown
His former brethren, who with him had shared 820

The odious office ; and his Lord approved ;—
For when proud Pharisees occasion made
Of censure, Jesus, heav'nly-meek, unmoved
By strict pretensions, the full board survey'd

Benignant, and declared He loving came 825
For penitents, and not self-lauding souls.—
Blest publican, whose seemly-alter'd name
First steward of her wealth the Church enrolls.

22. When Carus, who had dared th' avenging flame,
MAURICE and the Was smitten by its bolt, and next, his heir 830
Theban Legion,
Martyrs ; Was treacherously kill'd, th' imperial name
286. Attacht to Dioclesian, who to share

His pow'r Maximian call'd, and to his charge
The west allotted. When the peasants rose
T' avenge Carinus' death, " Maximian, march 835
Against these wretches, who great Rome oppose,"

SEPTEMBER. Said Dioclesian, "and Augustus be,
Our partner in the empire." Now to Gaul
Maximian goes, and bids at Martigni
That prayers should to the gods ascend from all. 840

The Theban legion, which of Christian men
Consisted: from the army they withdrew,
And soon like unresisting sheep were slain
Because they would not give Jehovah's due

To Cæsar and his throne.

23.
THECLA,
V.M.;
1st cent.

St. Thecla next 845
Before us rises, whom the Grecians call
Her sex's proto-martyr. Long perplexed
And sought in marriage, "I by holy Paul,"

She answer'd, "have been taught that it is good
T' abide even as he, and flesh's toil 850
Thus to avoid; for she that has endured
The marriage-yoke for this world's things will toil

"To please her husband, not to please the Lord,
Or holy be in body as in mind;"—
Nor could the youth, tho' noble, comely, stored 855
With this world's riches, place of weakness find

Within her constant soul. For this, betray'd
By him to heathen judges, she was giv'n
Naked to furious beasts; themselves which laid
Down at her feet and lickt them,—bride of heav'n! 860

SEPTEMBER.
24.
GERARD,
Bishop of
Chonad,
Archbishop of a
District in
Germany and
Martyr;
1046.

Ten weary centuries had roll'd away
Since light from heav'n had dawn'd upon the world,
Yet had not Germany entire the sway
Of Christ received, when Gerard bold unfurl'd

The cross's banner, and from Satan's reign 865
Snatcht num'rous souls : a living martyrdom
Was his, before his sacred blood did stain
The Pagan lance : on foot he went to roam

On messages of love, or in some poor
And sordid wagon, meditating still 870
As on his way he fared. With holy lure
Of decent pomp, and ceremonial skill,

He won the grosser part, as knowing these
Must oft by sense be captured, nor with aid
Of outward show dispense. The mysteries 875
Concluding, he foretold his death by raid

25.
GEOFFREY,
Abbot;
716.

Of brutal soldiery.

Our English ground
The next saint furnishes; who, Geoffrey hight,
Was in Bernicia born, and helpt to found
The Wearmouth monastery. His delight 880

Was still by creatures to be scorn'd ; austere
His penances, and over Jarrow's tow'rs
He ruled. Of glowing zeal and judgment clear
(Which seldom God in equal plenty show'rs)

SEPTEMBER. Bede represents him,—and to both he join'd 885
 Much wisdom of the schools, nor e'er forgot
 The science of the saints, with constant mind
 Striving for heav'nly joys and deathless lot.

Wearmouth and Jarrow both did he enrich
 With goodly books, but banisht such as feed 890
 Mere curiosity. 'Twas his to teach
 That light of ancient England, holy Bede.

26.
 CYPRIAN and
 JUSTINA.
 Martyrs;
 304. A second Cyprian we next day extol;
 Whose parents in the impious mysteries
 Of hellish magic train'd his youthful soul, 895
 Which learnt too well such dire iniquities.

Children he murder'd, that by offering
 Their blood he might the demon-pow'rs appease,
 And by inspection of their bowels wring
 From fate the knowledge of futurities. 900

Askt by a Pagan noble to give aid
 In luring down a Christian maid to vice,
 He saw and loved her, and his evil trade
 Plied vainly, and could ne'er the maid entice.

Finding from this that Christ's was stronger pow'r 905
 Than demons', he the Christian worship saw,
 And heard the choirs at early morning-hour
 Sing Alleluia, and was fill'd with awe.

SEPTEMBER. Like first magician-converts, he his books
 Burn'd,—and Justina from the world retired; 910
 Till she all scourged, and he with iron hooks
 Torn, reacht the heav'n to which they'd long aspired.

27.
 COSMAS and
 DAMIAN,
 Martyrs;
 about 300. Cosmas and Damian next our thoughts engage;
 Two brothers, in Arabia born, who learn'd
 The healing art, and with it blest their age, 915
 But no gratuities or fees e'er earn'd.

Beheaded after various torments, they
 Went to their rest.—Ten cent'ries after this
 Count Elzear peaceful died on the same day,
 ELZEAR and DELPHINA, 14th cent. And left Delphina for the realms of bliss. 920

Tho' married, they as virgins lived; and he,
 When absent, wrote, "Go visit our dear Lord
 Where He reposes, in His mystery
 Of love: thou'lt find me in His heart adored."

28.
 EUSTOCHIUM,
 Virgin;
 about 420. Eustochium early learn'd to consecrate 925
 To charity and God what other fair
 And noble virgins on their earthly state
 Love to expend, maintaining thus the air

Of worldly luxury, and sloth, and pride.
 Beneath St. Jerom's guidance she was placed 930
 Of her free will, who his sage pen applied
 For her behoof, and taught how virgins chaste

SEPTEMBER. Might so remain ; by deep humility,
 And senses' guard, and holy temperance,
 And solitude, and keeping ever free 935
 From intercourse with those whose talk and glance

Is of the world ; by all the hours of prayer
 Observed, and sign of cross, and habit plain.
 In Bethlem's convent she the lesson rare
 Practised, and found at last that death was gain. 940

29.
 ST. MICHAEL,
 and All Angels. Blest angels, in whose happiness rejoice
 All faithful souls, and thanks to God return
 For your high service, and heart, soul, and voice
 Perpetual strung ! who still unwearied burn

In His blest praise, and His most Holy will, 945
 Ev'n when it sends you down on us to wait,
 (Sin-blighted heirs of dust,) with joy fulfil,—
 So far removed is your exalted state

From hateful pride ; O that th' example bright
 Might cure th' accursed vice, and us inspire 950
 With fervent zeal, as ever in His sight,
 By meek obedience for your sinless choir

Still to prepare. You little children love,
 And were " their Angels " call'd by Him who said,
 " Forbid them not to me to come : " above 955
 You see His face, below you bring them aid.

SEPTEMBER.

30.
JEROM,
Priest and
Doctor of the
Church;
420.

Of all ascetics the most deeply learn'd,
Of doctors all the most ascetic found,
St. Jerom thus a double praise has earn'd,
Which does thro' East and West alike resound. 960

By classic follies snared, he found his heart
Unfit to feel entire God's gentle reign,
But mercy cured him by the vig'rous smart
Of a dread vision ; for, with sickness ta'en

On desert soil, and parcht with fever heat, 965
He seem'd, amid his troubled sleep, to stand
Helpless before that great white judgment-seat,
And hear our Lord, "What art thou ?" stern demand.

"A Christian," said the saint. "Thou liest," replied
The judge : "a Ciceronian thou ; for still 970
In Tully's works thou takest delight and pride."
'Twas thus Christ cured the remnant of self-will.

END OF THE FIFTH BOOK.

BOOK VI.

OCTOBER
1.
REMIGIUS,
Archbishop of
Rheims;
538.

APOSTLE of the French ! O when thou now
Upon th' apostate changeful race dost look,
Say, can the splendors which adorn thy brow
One pitying "moment's shade of sadness brook?"

When Clovis, who did found their monarchy, 5
Had left his idols, his good queen Clotild
Soon to her convert-lord presented thee,
As of all bishops manifestly fill'd

With most of th' Holy Spirit's grace divine ;
That *princely* Spirit's grace, who bade thee say, 10
What time the monarch knelt before the shrine
And askt for baptism on blest Christmas-day,

"Sicambrian prince, thy neck bow meekly down :
Adore what thou hast burnt, and what adored
Now burn." O that each head that wears a crown 15
This lesson would receive as from the Lord !

2.
The Holy Angels,
Guardians.

Again the angels call us to their praise ;—
Not now as filling the blest courts above
With raptures jubilant as o'er the ways [20
Of the Thrice Blest they muse with wond'ring love ;

P

OCTOBER. But as encamping round about the just,
 Deliv'ring them from evil, for their need
 Providing, exercising friendly trust,
 Wafting our sighs to God, and the high meed

Of grace conveying down. Our ways they note, 25
 With us go in and out, our toils assist,
 Protect our rest, our victories promote,
 Nor leave us till our harden'd souls resist

Their kindly aid. O then with reverence due
 Their presence welcome, nor presuming dare 30
 To do before them what the gaze and view
 Of sober men would strike us to despair

If seen committing.

3.
 DIONYSIUS,
 the Areopagite,
 Bp. of Athens.

The apostle Paul,
 A debtor to the wise and the unlearn'd,
 To Athens came, and preacht the faith to all, 35
 And Dionysius for his convert earn'd.

A member he of th' honourable court
 Of Areopagus, by law assign'd
 In things religious as of last resort ;
 And now the cross's herald his whole mind 40

Before them pour'd, and was a babbler call'd
 Who Jesus and the Resurrection taught.
 But Dionysius, no longer thrall'd
 By idols, to the love of truth was brought,

OCTOBER. And "clave unto him, and believed:" full soon 45
 Bishop of Athens by th' Apostle made,
 He scorn'd all things beneath the changing moon,—
 At last was martyr'd. Soissons has his head.

4.
 FRANCIS
 of Assisium;
 1226. "If any man in this world seemeth wise,
 Let him become a fool," th' Apostle said ; 50
 And Francis meekly with the voice complies,
 A holy madman by the world portray'd.

"My God and All!" was still his soul's desire ;
 But no proud scorn he show'd of those who more
 Of earth enjoy, and less to heav'n aspire ; 55
 "But God can call them," said, "with varying pow'r

By other ways."—Beyond the deacon's rank
 He would not move, so humble was his heart ;
 And, as he in his own eyes lower sank,
 God found him worthy of that rarest art 60

And science of the saints. 'Twas this that made
 Him love to hear, "Brother, thou merit'st hell."—
 He bore upon his body, plain survey'd,
 The *marks* of Jesus, and with him doth dwell.

5.
 PLACIDUS
 and his Com-
 panions,
 Martyrs;
 546. Such was the holy Benedict's renown 65
 That noblest Roman houses sent their sons
 To be by him brought up, far from the town
 And worldly joy, whose fatal current runs

OCTOBER.

Impetuous there. Tertullus, an august
 Patrician, his son Placidus commits, 70
 When yet the blooming boy no more than just
 Sev'n years had number'd : so it best befits

That youthful age should kindly nurture seek
 And early come beneath the yoke of grace,
 Ere yet each sinful custom makes us weak.— 75
 Tertullus, grateful for the charge, great space

Of lands on Benedict bestow'd ; and here
 The patriarch a new holy mansion rear'd
 For Placidus to rule. A fatal year
 At length brought pirates, who from Afric's coast 80

Furious appear'd, and burnt the house, and slew
 The abbot and his monks.

6.
 FAITH,
 Virgin, and her
 Companions ;
 Martyrs in the
 Decian
 Persecution.

Of beauty rare,
 The virgin-martyr, whom we next pursue
 With commendations, loved the fairest fair, 85

And scorn'd the world's allurements. Brought before
 The prefect Dacian, she, the cross's sign
 O'er her frame making, did that Spouse implore
 To fortify her, and each power incline

To glorify his name. " What art thou call'd ?"
 Said Dacian. "*Faith*," she answered, " and I try 90
 Its sense to realize." " Be not enthrall'd
 Longer to Christ ; but our Divinity,

OCTOBER. "Diana, worship." "She a demon is,"
 The maid replied ;—and straight a brazen bed
 Was heated, and to it with iron ties 95
 Her virgin-frame was bound, and many a head

Struck off of those who dared to sympathize
 With her keen torments ; for when question'd there
 The sudden converts would not sacrifice,
 But, tho' on easier terms, preferr'd to share 100

Her martyrdom.

7.
 SERGIUS and
 BACCHUS,
 Martyrs under
 Maximian.

Sergius and Bacchus then
 We celebrate, who office high did hold
 In Roman army : 'neath Maximian
 They constant suffer'd ; next, Justina, bold

JUSTINA, V. M. ;
 about the begin-
 ning of 3rd cent.

Tho' maiden martyr, who at Padua died 105
 And whom fair Venice honours next to Mark,
 Glorious Evangelist ! and still with pride
 Stamps on the coin her image.—In the "dark

OSITH, V. M. ;
 about 870.

Ages," (so call'd by those who boast of light,)
 Another virgin-martyr on this day 110
 Gave up her soul amid a barb'rous fight
 With Danish pirates. Many years did pray

O'er her remains a num'rous monast'ry
 Of canons regular, till ruthless swept
 Away by bloody Henry.

8.
 THAIS,
 the Penitent,
 about 350.

Famously renown'd 115
 Is Thais, who her former vileness wept

OCTOBER

And peace obtain'd, but not on th' easy terms
 Of modern "Reformation." The good man
 Who sought her out, and gave the first alarms,
 Enclosed her in a cell, and put the ban 120

Of access on the door, and bade her ne'er
 Cease saying, "Thou who hast created me,
 Have pity on me." Thus with fervour rare
 Three years she pray'd, no blest *paternity*

Addressing, nor a *lordship* dared to claim 125
 Where thought of judgments awed her, nor as *God*
 Would call upon Him, that all-perfect Name!
 But still His *creature* was she, at His nod

Produced ; nor He the tie disdain'd.

St. Luke

Is said by some t' have planted first in Gaul 130
 The faith, and taught it from his gospel-book :
 Nor Crescens less, disciple of St. Paul.

9.
 DENYS,
 Bishop of Paris,
 and his Com-
 panions,
 Martyrs;
 272.

Next from the Roman See were preachers sent
 To Lyons, and fair Marseilles, and Vienne ;
 But Denys above all his lustre lent 135
 To the gay city water'd by the Seine.

Long 'prison'd, he at length with faithful priest
 And deacon his last sacrifice essay'd ;
 And 'neath Valerian from his labours ceased,
 And bow'd beneath the bloody axe his head. 140

OCTOBER. Their bodies, in the river thrown, were ta'en
 Out from the stream, and by a Christian dame
 Interr'd not far from where the saints were slain ;
 And soon the faithful people num'rous came,

And built a chapel o'er the sacred spot.— 145

10.
 PAULINUS,
 Archbishop of
 York;
 644.

Two English saints the next day consecrate ;
 Paulinus for his apostolic lot
 The largest kingdom in the sev'nfold state

JOHN OF BRID-
 LINGTON ;
 1379.

Of Saxon pow'r obtained ;—and Prior John,
 Who Oxford's learning 'neath the humble cowl 150
 Conceal'd, and at his native Bridlington
 O'er monks presided : from his inmost soul

All stains he wept, and constant sacrifice
 Of meek obedience and a holy love
 Offer'd to God, who lightened from the skies 155
 His fervent mind, and to the realms above

In due time called him.—St. Paulinus pour'd
 On Edwin the regenerating stream ;
 And crowds of people from the saint implored
 Like grace, and the illuminating beam 160

Thro' him received.

Three martyrs next we praise,

11.
 TARACHUS, &c.,
 Martyrs;
 304.

Whose tortures, so horrific, would the ear
 Of modern niceness shock ; but how the ways
 Of martyrs could we tread if e'en to hear

OCTOBER.

Their stories we refuse ? Scourged till their frame 165

Became one gaping wound, with teeth bruised out,
Rackt, and with fiery spits all burnt, the name
Of Christ they would not leave, but put to rout

The pow'rs of hell by noble constancy.

A furious lioness, which made all men 170
Tremble who saw her, staid her course to lie
At feet of Tarachus, his almost slain

And helpless body licking ; nor, when goads
Were used to rouse her, could be brought
To hurt the saints ; who, fire and clubs and rods 175
Defying, tired the monster who had thought

To make them quail, and were at length despatcht
By gladiator's sword : the night was dark,
And violent thunder did the guards, who watcht
O'er their remains, disperse : a star's bright mark 180

The three distinguisht, and the faithful took
And hid them where no search could find.

12
WILFRID,
Bishop of York ;
709.

Of York

Another prelate next life's glorious book
Bids us acknowledge,—Wilfrid, to whose work

Of faith, and toil of love, great churches owe, 185
Here and abroad, their standing in the Lord.
Involved in num'rous troubles here below,
No sooner was he dead than all afford

OCTOBER. Free tribute to his motives ever pure,
 And ardent zeal for holy discipline, 190
 The nurse of virtue, which her bonds ensure,
 But must, as these are weaken'd, soon decline.

13.
 Translation of
 KING EDWARD ;
 1163. Next the translation of good Edward's frame
 (Found incorrupt) does all our thoughts engage,
 Model of kings ! who bade the princely name 195
 Shine forth amid that sad, degen'rate age.

Nurst in adversity, he learn'd to know
 No glory but God's justice to perform,
 And rather would the greatest pow'r forego
 Than shed the blood of meanest fellow-worm. 200

All wisht a saint for king, and thought to rest
 From tyranny and rapine, and they found
 Their wish ; for from the blessed Paschal feast,
 Whose glorious light saw holy Edward crown'd,

The kingdom happiness and peace obtain'd. 205
 E'en Danes revered him : no vile plunder he
 Raised to enrich the Church, but cheerful drain'd
 His own estates : taxation's cruelty

Then was not,—and his only war was made
 To set Scots' Malcolm on his rightful throne : 210
 Great Westminster he rear'd, where yet are laid,
 To vest our monarchs, the saint's robes and crown.

OCTOBER
14.
CALIXTUS,
Bishop of Rome,
and Martyr;
222.

Calixtus, by the ancient cemet'ry
He beautified, is dear to Christian fame ;
For there repose, in blest security, 225
Full many a martyr's ashes, while each name,

Glorious in heav'n, is thro' the Church renown'd.
Five years he sat, and fasts and tears opposed
To Heliogabalus' (monster crown'd !)
Vices unnatural. This pope disposed 220

15.
HOSPICIUS,
Anchorite ;
About 580.

The Ember-fasts, with ordinations due.—
“ O that my head,” the mourning prophet cried,
“ Were waters, and mine eyes a fountain too,
That I might nightly weep, and daily hide

In desert-wilds !” And ever since his day 225
A remnant has been left of kindred souls,
Who for the world's sad evils fast and pray
While ever from their eyes the torrent rolls.

Such by another prophet noted were,
And on their darken'd brow the cross was traced, 230
Sign of deliv'rance when God's judgments spare
Nor sex nor age, but only those who placed

Their refuge there. And such St. Hospice was,
Of birth unknown, but on a rock who built
A convent, but himself in narrower pass 235
Lived, and an iron chain to expiate guilt

OCTOBER. Wore constant. Hence the Lombards, whose descent
 He had foretold, demanded what his fault.
 "Of deepest dye," he said; and one then meant [240
 To have despatcht him, but Heav'n staid th' assault,

16.
 GALL,
 Abbot;
 646.

And numb'd the arm till by the saint restored.—
 One of the many whom Columban left
 To copy his bright virtues in the Lord
 Was Gall; who, soon as Ireland was bereft

Of that most high example, to our isle 245
 Accompanied him, and in turn to France,
 Whose pious king received them with a smile
 Of kind and courteous welcome. Near Bregentz

They built themselves a cell in after-days
 And 'neath less fav'ring prince, whom for his lust 250
 Columban had reproved. The idol-ways
 Of nations soon they changed, and into just

And Christian turn'd them. Gall in synod high
 Was sought for bishop of great Constance' see;
 But, to escape the shining danger nigh 255
 And yet content men's importunity,

Gave them his deacon.

17.
 ETHELDEDEDA
 or AUDRY,
 Virgin;
 679.

Audry, virgin chaste
 Tho' twice a wife, when her first Lord was call'd
 From life like angels here, to be embraced
 By those pure spirits, and no more enthrall'd 260

OCTOBER

With bonds of flesh, to solitude retired
 In Ely's isle, her dowry, and there trod
 Five years the same high path, with ardour fired
 Incessantly the praises of her God

To sing. Her virtues pierced the humble veil 265
 Of secrecy, and soon Northumbria's king
 By powerful urging did at last prevail
 That she a second time herself should bring

'Neath wedlock's bands, keeping her virgin-state. 270
 Twelve years she thus with her good husband reign'd,
 But then within the strict monastic grate
 Withdrew, and follows now the Lamb unstain'd.

18.
 LUKE,
 Evangelist.

Follower of Paul, as Paul was of his Lord,
 "The loved Physician" next before us stands ;
 Whose heav'nly med'cine, in bright casket stored, 275
 Applied in faith and love, will all demands

Of our sick souls content ; so largely he
 Tells of the Incarnation, th' angels' song
 O'er Bethle'm's plain at blest Nativity
 Thrilling at night the love-lit sky along ;— 280

The Hymns of Zacharias, Simeon,
 And Mary blest ; which in the church's aisle
 Have never ceased to echo the glad tone
 Of pristine inspiration : other while

OCTOBER. Of the lost sheep he tells, the prodigal 285
 Now tired of husks, and to his father's home
 Meekly returning. Such the lessons all
 A God for our salvation man become

Bequeathed as golden-pointed darts of love,
 Which issuing from the gospel-quiver touch 290
 His en'mies' hearts, and pierce them, and remove
 The veil which law and nature left.—And such,

19.
 FRIDSWIDE,
 Virgin,
 Patroness of
 Oxford.

Fair Oxford, did thy prince's daughter find,
 And from her cradle learn that all but God
 Is nought : no wealth or beauty could her mind 295
 Affect, except to make her fear the load

And cast it from her : her good father, glad
 Of this her resolution, founded straight,
 In honour of that virgin blest who clad
 Th' Eternal Son with this our flesh's weight, 300

And of all saints who then to heav'n had past,
 A convent. Here the maiden lived and died,
 And hence her bones were scatter'd by rude haste
 Of rash *reforming* zeal, and godless pride.

Bucer's Dutch wife was buried in the spot, 305
 With this inscription, " Here religion lies,
 And superstition ;"—but thy happy lot,
 Oxford ! has been of late to exorcize

OCTOBER. Schism's demon, and religion to revive :
 The good work only waits to be approved 310
 By th' Holy See, and England's Church will thrive,
 From anti-christian parliaments removed.*

30
 BARSABIAS
 and his
 Ten Companions,
 Persian Martyrs;
 342.

Barsabias and his fellows were accused
 The Magians' faith of lab'ring to destroy,
 And with inhuman torments were abused, 315
 But bore them all with most exulting joy.

So great their constancy, a passer-by,
 Magian himself, beholding, straight began
 Christ to confess, and of that company
 Of martyrs was admitted, as a man 320

31.
 HILARION,
 Abbot;
 About 370.

Join'd with them all in faith and in desire.—
 Like rose 'mid thorns, devout Hilarion, sprung
 Of Pagan mother and from Pagan sire,
 Thought all the world's enjoyments dross and dung

Christ's love to win: for this in deserts wild 325
 He spent the seasons; and, when friendly warn'd
 Of thieves and murd'ers, told them, while he smiled,
All dangers but eternal death he scorn'd.

* I understand that, since these (alas! too sanguine) lines were written, Oxford, by a natural re-action, as well as perhaps by a divine judgment on unfaithfulness to light received, has become the seat of a heresy which threatens to sap the foundations of all revealed religion.

OCTOBER. "The poor and naked fear no thieves, and I
 Would always be for death prepared." When plied 330
 With flesh-temptations he would say, "I'll try
 To load and weary this my frame, that pride

And pleasure may be banisht far." His stay
 Tho' long in Palestine, he yet but once
 Went to the holy places for a day, 335
 Lest men should deem 'twas needful to renounce

All common ground for gift of fruitful prayer,
 And for acceptance *on that mountain's height*
Worship the Father.—Yet 'twas fit with care
 To cherish Abram's race, long God's delight, 340

22.
 MARK,
 First Gentile
 Bishop of Jerus ;
 156.

And so the first fifteen who ruled the see
 Of Solyma a Jewish lineage own'd :
 At length, when Barchochebas' mastery
 Roused to rebellion, Adrian, to confound

The nation, all the buildings overthrew 345
 Since Titus rear'd, and the Capitoline
 Aelia erected : then, as every Jew
 Was banisht from the spot, the early vine

Was first by Gentile hands tended and kept ;
 For Mark, the learn'd and holy, twenty years 350
 With faithful and true heart that never slept
 Watcht o'er the plant, and water'd with his tears.

OCTOBER. Long after, Julian the Apostate, who
 23. In vain attempted Christ's great prophecy
 THEODORET, To foil, his namesake, (and his uncle too,) 355
 Priest & Martyr; 362. Made Count of th' East. He from the treasury

In Antioch's church would seize the sacred plate;
 And Theodoret, zealous priest! with bands
 Fast'ning his arms, was brought before him straight,
 The statues of the gods fashion'd with hands 360

Charged with o'erthrowing. He the crown obtain'd
 By cruel tortures; but the wicked lord
 More ling'ring agonies endured, nor gain'd
 From his cold nephew sympathising word.

24. Proclus the Blessed Maid's prerogative 365
 PROCLUS, Boldly maintain'd, and show'd she must be styled
 Archbishop of Constantinople; 447. Mother of God; but ne'er presumed to give
 Insults to heretics, whom ever mild

He treated. Gay, sententious, and concise,
 His writings are. When earthquake shook the East, 370
 The people, by this holy man's advice,
 Sang the Trisagion-hymn, and sudden ceased

The fearful shaking: hence the churches Greek
 The words insert their liturgies among,
 And, ere they sue for mercy, praises speak 375
 To th' "Holy God," and to the "Holy Strong,"

OCTOBER.

And "Holy Deathless :"—blessed Three in One!—

25.
CRISPIN
and
CRISPINIAN,
Martyrs;
287.

Crispinian and Crispin brothers were

By blood, and with more blest fraternity

In Christ united : they, with ardour rare, 380

Came with St. Quentin from great Rome to Gaul
The faith to preach, and did at Soissons dwell.
Like Paul they labour'd too; with last and awl
Working on leather : fitly thence and well

French shoemakers did them their patrons choose, 385
And models;—tho' the men were nobly born,
But thought it no reproach at shaping shoes
To labour, since our Lord began t' adorn

The carpenter's mean trade. Their lessons good
The heathen heard with meekness, nor were less 390
Astonisht at their loving, heav'nly mood,
And scorn of all that earthly men possess.

Hence many were converted ; but when came
Maximian into Gaul complaint was made,
And Varus, direst foe of Christian name, 395
With tortured martyr's wreath entwined each head.

26.
EVARISTUS,
Bishop of Rome,
and Martyr;
112.

St. Evaristus in the Holy See

Succeeded Anacletus, in the age

Of famous Trajan, and with equity

For nine years govern'd, and to heathen rage 400

Q

OCTOBER. A victim fell : in parishes first he
 Divided Rome, and priests to each assign'd :
 Seven deacons at the bishop's side to be
 He made, conform'd to th' apostolic mind.

LUCIAN and
 MARCIAN,
 Martyrs;
 250.

Lucian and Marcian on the same day too 405
 Are honour'd, who to study of black arts
 Themselves had giv'n ; but, soon as in their view
 A Christian virgin drove away those darts

Of evil spirits by the sign of cross,
 Their eyes were open'd, and their books they 410
 burn'd,
 And preach't to th' heathen. Rackt for this, no loss
 Of patience show'd they, but with meekness turn'd

To him who doom'd them, and reproachful said,
 "While we served idols, our great, many faults
 Were never visited : now Christians made 415
 And blameless living, to these fierce assaults

Are we subjected ; but we suffer glad
 Rather than, God renouncing, endless fire
 In hell encounter." Then in flames he bade
 They should be cast, and quickly there expire. 420

27.
 FRUMENTIUS,
 Apostle of
 Ethiopia;
 4th century.

Metropius, a philosopher of Tyre,
 To Ethiopia voyaged for the love
 Of knowledge, and that *severing* desire
 Which seizes men ; but God, who sits above,

OCTOBER. And shapes our rough-hewn ways, rekindled thus 425
 The faded light which erst St. Philip gave.
 Th' advent'rer's son was good Frumentius,
 Who begg'd St. Athanasius to save

 The people, and a holy pastor send.
 A synod sat, and, finding none more fit 430
 Than th' implorer's self, him straight ordain'd
 Bishop of th' Ethiopians: he relit

 The lamp of faith, since dimm'd by heresy
 Of Eutyches.

28.
SIMON and
JUDE,
Apostles.

 St. Simon and St. Jude
 Next claim our homage. Jewish bigotry 435
 Had named a party Zealot, who the feud

'Twixt Rome and Isr'el ever kept alive.
 Of this was Simon ere the faith he knew,
 And changed his zeal, and made more glorious thrive
 In better cause. The other of the two 440

Was "Judas, not Iscariot,"—who the Lord
 Askt, "How is it Thou wilt to us, and not
 The world, the knowledge of Thyself afford?"
 Deep mystery! while yet the earthly blot

Of selfishness, or love inordinate, 445
 Is on the soul, she to the world belongs,
 Whose votaries Christ's saints and sayings hate,
 And have no ear for Sion's pleasant songs.

(OCTOBER.
29.
NARCISSEUS,
Bishop of Jerus;
2nd cent.

Narcissus, when fourscore his age, became
The thirtieth bishop of the Jewish see ; 450
And soon among the faithful raised his name
Renown'd for discipline's severity.

Three desp'rate sinners, fearing his just ire,
Laid to his charge a hateful crime ; and one
Wisht, if he spoke untruth, he might by fire 455
Perish ; that he might never see the sun,

Another ; and the third the leprosy.
The heavenly vengeance, by them thus defied,
In various kinds, as dared, pursued the three. .
The first in nightly conflagration died : 460

The next a loathsome leper soon became :
The other, brought by these to better mind,
Confest, and wept so sore his sin and shame
That th' overwhelming deluge left him blind.

30.
MARCELLUS,
the Centurion,
Martyr.
296.

Marcellus the Centurion, who denied 465
On th' emp'ror's birth-day to the idol-shrine,
His off'ring, was beheaded : the same side
The notary embraces, and declines

ASTERIUS,
Bishop of
Amasea,
Father of the
Church ;
5th cent

To write the sentence, and the same death meets.—
The proud and noisy bar Asterius left 470
'To give himself to God. In Pontus' streets
The Christians, more like men of wits bereft,

OCTOBER. With riot ushered in the coming year,
 And its "good wishes" cried from door to door.
 The bishop this reprov'd, accounting clear 475
 They rather should the first-fruits of its store

To God commend, and thus a blessing bring,
 Than ape the Kalend, and in senseless joy
 Consume the day, the Pagans following.—
 St. Quintin all renounced for blest employ 480

31.
 QUINTIN,
 Martyr;
 287.

Of preaching Christ, and Picardy received
 The doctrine. Rictius Varus, in his hate
 Of that blest Name which, "in the world believed,"
 Is "in the spirit justified," seized straight

The holy man, and loaded him with chains : 485
 Next day his frame with rods of iron wire
 Was torn,—with other tortures : he remains
 Firm to the end, and does to heav'n aspire.

WOLFGANG,
 of Ratisbon ;
 994.

Wolfgang of Ratisbon the same last day
 Of wan October with his virtues bright 490
 Illustrates, nor our eyes with longer stay
 Detains from Hallowmas' all-glorious light.

NOVEMBER
 1.
 All Saints.

Hail, ye Apostles' crown'd and radiant choir !
 Hail, goodly number of the Prophets' band !
 Hail, white-robed martyrs, who thro' sword and fire 495
 Have won your palms, and now at Christ's right hand -

NOVEMBER. Confess Him glorious in His saints ! hail, too,
 Ye virgin-train : and, first and greatest, thou,
 The Queen of heav'n, in whose adoring view
 The High'st descended, and the heav'ns did oow, 500

To be Thy Son ! Hail, spirits of the just
 Made perfect, doctors and confessors all
 Who spurn'd the world as dross, and placed your trust
 In God alone, that safe and flaming wall

Amid temptations ! Hail ! and O whene'er 505
 Our angel-guardians with the message run
 That we, poor wretches, need and wish your prayer,
 Fail not to make it, that the Victim-Son

May offer it at heaven's golden shrine
 With the "much incense" of His own most pure 510
 And prevalent mediation !—Nor confine
 Your prayers to us, who still on earth endure,

2.
 All Souls.

But think of those who've left their house of clay
 In faith and love of Jesus, but have not,
 Tho' willing, wept all earthly stains away, 515
 And wait the hour when without wrinkle, spot,

Or blemish, they the temple undefiled
 Shall enter, and with you and the angel-host
 Incessantly, and never more exiled,
 Confess the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 520

NOVEMBER.
3.
WINEFREED,
Virgin-Martyr;
about the end of
the 7th cent.

And thou, blest daughter of a British prince !
Whose name in Saxon doth a *winner* mean
Of peace ; thy well, of all before or since
Most famous, sinners' ulcerous flesh to clean,

Restore their sight, and bid the bed-rid move, 525
A pledge shall be of peace revived, and all
Our sore divisions heal'd, and mutual love
Restored. No need had'st thou of convent-wall

To shut thee from the world, but young to God
Thy maiden-state didst vow, and glad the hearts 530
Of both thy parents, who well knew the road
To bless perfection, and the holy arts

That gain heav'n's kingdom.—Leader made at last
Of virgin-band, she soon the notice drew
Of Cradoc, violent prince ! with brutish haste 535
Who woo'd her, and, refused, in passion flew

And took her head ; which falling, th' Holy Well
Sprang in the place, not with small thread-like rill
At first as others, but with gushing swell
Of waters, which the spacious basin fill. 540

4.
VITALIS and
AGRICOLA,
Martyrs ;
beginning of
4th cent.

St. Ambrose tells us that of old there lived,
Of lineage good and in Bologna's town,
Agricola, who in th' affection thrived
Ev'n of idolators,—of such renown

NOVEMBER. His virtues were. His slave Vitalis learn'd 545

From him the faith, but yet the guerdon blest
Of Christian martyrdom before him earn'd ;
For slave and freeman, 'tis by all confest,

Are one in Jesus. With his wounds and blood
All cover'd, the meek slave besought the Lord 550
His soul to take, which straightway went to God,
And left his master next the high reward

To merit : he, undaunted by the sight
Of his slave's sufferings, did the rage provoke
Of judge and crowd, and on a cross's height 555
Was hung, and pierced with nails,—Christ's glorious
yoke.

5.
BERTILLE,
Abbess
of Chelles,
602.

St. Bertille from her infancy preferr'd
The love of God to creatures, shunn'd the toys
And cheats of earth, nor e'er could be deterr'd
By straitness of the way to heav'nly joys. 560

Two queens obey'd her in the holy house,
Where th' only contest was who most should love
And be most humble : thus their convent-vows
Fulfill'd they ; and Bertille, who foremost strove,

Redoubled, as her happy end drew nigh, 565
Th' austerities of penance, as the steed,
When near the goal, with fresh alacrity
Pants for the prize to crown his toils decreed.

NOVEMBER. St. Leonard was a noble Frank in court
 6. Of the first Clovis, and in flow'r of age 570
 LEONARD, Hermit;
 6th cent. Converted to the faith. His first resort
 Was to Remigius, who the holy page

To him had open'd, and whose pontiff-name
 First of this book we honour'd : with little zeal,
 Simplicity, and love, of worldly fame 575
 Unmindful, Leonard lived. A heart to feel

For captives' woes had he, and oft obtain'd
 Their freedom,—whence *the prisoners' saint* is call'd.
 Great was his name in England, where he gain'd
 Of many a church with rich provision stall'd 580

The titular honour : he prized solitude,
 And found the sky more lovely there, " more bright
 The sun, heav'n's breath more clear and good,
 The earth more jocund, time more brief " and light.

7. In our Northumbria born was Willibrord, 585
 WILLIBRORD, 1st Bishop of
 Utrecht;
 740. And early Ripon's sacred cloister sought,
 Then govern'd by St. Wilfrid, to the Lord
 Who gave that rich domain. When souls are brought

'Neath Christ's sweet yoke in youth it lighter is,
 And Willibrord so found it. T' Ireland soon 590
 He went, and in the sacred sciences
 Studied twelve years. Th' invaluable boon

NOVEMBER. Of faith he long'd on heathens to bestow,
 And thus on Friedland-mission undertook
 With Swidbert and ten English monks to go ; 595
 But, not unmindful of the holy book

Which says our Lord the pow'r to bind and loose
 Gave to St. Peter, sought the Holy See
 For plenary pow'r, which granted, he to use
 Fail'd not to put it ; and prosperity 600

His efforts blest.

8.
 Four Crown'd
 Brothers,
 Martyrs ;
 304.

The four crown'd brothers now
 We glad remember, who, employed at Rome
 In honour, for refusing down to bow
 To idols speedy found their heavenly home,
 But dire the way they reacht it ! naked stript 605
 Before the crow'd, with cruel scourges, each
 With leaden plummet loaded, were they whipt
 Till they expired. Let this a lesson teach

To our effeminate souls, which timid shrink
 From slightest suff'rings, and the blest cross shame 610
 And so become its foes, and cannot drink
 One drop of that fell cup which He, whose claim

Is boundless on our gratitude and love,
 T' our lips commends : no wonder when our God
 Is Mammon, or the belly, and we rove 615
 Thro' earth delighted, as if our abode

NOVEMBER.

9.
THEODORUS,
Tyro,
Martyr;
306.

Were here eternal.—Not so thought the young
And valiant Theodorus, Syrian born,
Who early fought the Roman troops among.
The governor and tribune moved his scorn 620

By asking how he dared profess a faith
Which th' holy emperors had now decreed
Should ev'ry where with sore and shameful death
Be punisht. "With your utmost pow'r proceed,"

The martyr answer'd : "beat, tear, burn ; cut out 625
My tongue if it offends : my every part
Is ready when God calls : your rabble rout
Of gods I know not, but his Son my heart

And lips acknowledge."—For his blooming age
Compassion was pretended, and more time 630
Vouchsafed him to consider ; but their rage
He moved, a temple burning : for this crime

With pitiless scourges was his tender frame
All bruised and torn, and then the rack applied.
At last a furnace of the burning flame 635
Received him, and 'twas thus the martyr died.

10.
TRYPHO and
RESPICIUS,
Martyrs ;
250.

Like constancy to his St. Trypho show'd,
And St. Respicus ; in the Decian age
To death exposed. With chains along the road
To Nice from Apamea did the rage 640

NOVEMBER. Of persecutors drag them : they the rack
 For three hours bore, and gave God praise, and told
 The judge what vengeance on his head would back
 Be paid. To horses' tails in winter's cold

[645

They next were tied, and dragg'd o'er fields : with nails
 Their feet were pierced, their frames with scourges
 torn ;—

But conquest crowns the saints when death assails,
 And endless fame in heav'n repays earth's scorn.

11.
 MARTIN,
 Bishop of Tours;
 end of 4th c.

The great St. Martin, glory of old Gaul,
 Light of the West, was in Pannonia born, 650
 But on th' Italian soil his lessons all
 Of human learning gather'd.—A forlorn

And shiv'ring beggar in mid-winter he,
 Marching with other officers, had seen,
 (For he already in the cavalry 655
 Of Rome was number'd when of years fifteen :)

Drawing his sword, he cut his cloak in two,
 Gave one-half to the beggar, and his own
 Frame in the other wrapt. Full in his view [660
 Next night our Lord appear'd, th' half-garment thrown

Around Him, and to th' angels thus he said :
 " Martin, a catechumen only yet,
 Has clothed me with this garment." From his bed
 Martin arose, with baptism's dew was wet,

NOVEMBER. And led the rest of a long, troublous life 665
Conform to this beginning.

12. Nilus, great,
NILUS, Anchoret
and Father;
5th cent. Wealthy, and dignified, renounced the strife
Which these engender'd, and obscure retreat

Preferr'd. St. Chrysostom his master was,
And taught him how to speak and live. He wrote 670
On prayer, and bids us ask its gift and grace
From God the Holy Ghost, who every thought

To prayer can turn, and prayer sum up in this—
"Thy will be done." His letters, extant yet,
Show how all ranks revered him. Ne'er remiss 675
In holy discipline, his heart was set

On deep retirement, and so well in God
With Christ his life was hid, that all we know
Is that in Martian's reign the way he trod
Of body's death, and left this world of woe. 680

13. Britius a native was of Tours, and 'neath
BRIITIUS,
Bishop;
444. Its holy bishop, bright St. Martin, sat
As monk; but deep and close as sword in sheath
Were hid those virtues which should shine more late;—

For he the prelate's magnanimity 685
Tried by his pride and sloth; but Martin saw
That he to God would turn, and in the see
Of Tours succeed him. By just law

NOVEMBER. Of God his former sins were visited, [690
 And slanders spread against him. From the town
 Expell'd, for many years he like one dead
 Sojourn'd at Rome ; but patience gain'd its crown,

And over malice triumpht : then restored,
 He govern'd with great sanctity his see,
 And left a name renowned in the Lord, 695
 Which e'en our timid, bare, and niggardly

14.
 DUBRICIUS,
 1st Bishop of
 Llandaff ;
 5th cent.

"Reformers" in their Kalendar retain'd.—
 Deeply had vice in ancient Britons' hearts
 With its corruption sunk, but God remain'd
 Not without witness. Ever He imparts 700

To some His Spirit, and his guiding grace
 Gently persuasive ; who with zealous arts
 And bright example still the blot efface.
 And such Dubricius was, in southern parts

Of Wales who chiefly flourisht, on the Wye 705
 Two schools of sacred learning gladly built
 Where many pastors to the ministry
 Were form'd, from paths of ignorance and guilt

To turn the people. He his own soul first
 Corrected well, and close in solitude 710
 And holy meditation musing nurst
 The Spirit's hints ; and then his flock imbued.

NOVEMBER. 15.
 MACHUTUS,
 or MAGLORIUS,
 1st Bishop of
 Aleth, in
 Brittany ;
 566.

Of English birth, and counting 'mong his kin
 Saints Samson and Maglorius, warm in youth
 Machutus learn'd in Erin's isle from sin 715
 To 'scape, and progress made in sacred truth.

Not long was he to priestly rank ordain'd
 When for a vacant see his merit great
 The people's willing suffrages obtained ;
 But he of fitness for that high estate 720

Gave the most fitting mark and truest sign,
 Retiring into Brittany, and there
 Hiding his life ; and so he would decline
 All sacred honour, but his virtues fair

Could not be hid, and Aleth's bishop he 725
 Was made ; but his remains t' another town
 Were carried, which thenceforth was made the see,
 And took *St. Malo's* name from his renown.

16.
 EUCHERIUS,
 Bishop of Lyons ;
 450.

A double praise Eucherius has obtain'd ;
 First shining in the world as a bright star, 730
 And then, when the monastic state he gain'd,
 Example giving to the men who far

From worldly strife and tumult have retired.
 Next after Irenæus' is his fame
 At Lyons, where for lustres three admired 735
 He sat, and left at last a deathless name.

NOVEMBER. His Latin style of the Augustan age
 Falls little short, and all its graces he
 Lavishes on the truth. His holy page
 The world's deceit and instability 740

So striking paints that like a phantom seems
 All human glory o'er the reader's sight
 To pass, and as the lightning's flash he deems
 The scene to vanish, and give place to night.

17.
 HUGH,
 Bishop of
 Lincoln;
 1189.

In holy solitude, which best prepares 745
 For active functions well perform'd, St. Hugh
 Learn'd first himself to govern, and the cares
 And joys of earth alike with scorn to view.

So great his sanctity while yet in flesh,
 That, when in storm our second Henry pray'd 750
 To God "whom Witham's prior serves," the fresh
 And daring winds the humble voice obey'd.

To those blest shades where first by him was taught
 The rule Carthusian, the saint once a year
 Was wont from Lincoln to retire, nor aught 755
 From the monks differ'd, but that he still ware

The bishop's ring; and thus enamour'd he
 Of convent-life again become, and askt
His office to resign of th' Holy See,
 But with rebukes was silenced, and still taskt. 760

NOVEMBER.
18.
ROMANUS, &c.,
Martyrs;
3rd cent.

What concourse Cæsarea's marble courts
Now fills? and what the fickle populace
Of Antioch drives with shining face? What sports
Expect they, clad in gay and festive dress?

'Tis Dioclesian's twentieth year of reign ; 765
And games, through Palestine, as elsewhere, giv'n,
Honour the time: now criminals obtain
Their pardon: all but Christians, whom nor heav'n

Nor earth, 'twould seem, can brook! Romanus then
And Barulas, Zachæus and his friend 770
Alphæus, noted all among the men
Who Christ confest, would not their firmness bend

'Neath sharpest tortures. When the tyrant came
To Antioch, and beheld Romanus, scourged
Already, into the devouring flame 775
Just hast'ning, he to further baseness urged,

And bade them by the root pluck out his tongue ;
But God, to glorify His servant's faith,
Fill'd him with speech as ever, and he sung
His praises 'mid that fierce and fiery death. 780

19.
BARLAAM,
Martyr;
1st Dioclesian
persecution.

O Dioclesian! many is the soul
Thy cruelties have sent t' eternal bliss ;
And now a fifth thou addest to the roll
Of martyr'd saints, the rod who meekly kiss.

R

NOVEMBER. 'Mid grievous torments.

Of a Roman birth

21.
GELASIUS,
Bishop of Rome;
492.

Gelasius was, but African descent, 810
And near five years the heav'nly keys on earth
He held, renown'd for learning's wide extent,

Skill'd in the Church's customs, famed as pure,
Of manners humble, temperate, austere,
To needy men still opening wide the door 815
Of liberality. In order clear

He set th' apportioning of revenue :—

“ One-fourth the bishop's is, his clergy's one,
The third to Christ's dear poor is strictly due,
And what remains should in continuance run 820

“ To form a store to build and to adorn
The sacred fabrics.” Manichees, who hid
Themselves in Rome, to clear and open scorn
He brought; for when the heretics were bid

Receive in both the kinds, the cloven foot 825
They show'd, rejecting God's good gift of wine
As 'twere impure.

22.
CECILIA, V.M.
230.

Cecilia, whose repute
Throughout the Church in long and glorious line

Of years has reacht us, ev'n on English land [830
Thro' Pope's and Dryden's sweet and vigorous song
Is better known than others of the band
Of virgin-martyrs; and her feast has long

NOVEMBER. Been kept by music-lovers, who will go
 One night to sacred oratorio-strain,
 The next to some voluptuous worldly show 835
 Where soft and melting sounds like copious rain

Enter the soul. Not thus she Christ had learn'd,
 But all her heart to Him from youth had given ;
 And thus she immortality has earn'd
 On earth, and sings His praises now in heaven. 840

23.
 CLEMENT,
 Bishop of Rome,
 and Martyr;
 100.

Of Jacob's race was Clement, tho' in Rome
 Born ; and by Paul or Peter to the faith
 Converted, and to follow them his home
 Left, and assist them in their holy path

Of labour. Hence an apostolic man 845
 St. Jerom calls him, and his namesake-saint
 Styles him "Apostle ;" but St. Paul the van
 Of commendation leads, no harsh complaint

Against him urging, as elsewhere, but speaks
 As of a "fellow-labourer, whose name 850
 Is in the book of life." This whoso seeks
 And finds has honour higher far and fame

Obtain'd than if he cast the demons forth.
 St. Clement has epistles left, which range
 Only below the Scriptures in high worth. 855
 Years nearly ten he sat, and then his change

NOVEMBER. Came, and the willing martyr's wreath was gain'd.

24.
CHRYSOGONUS,
Dioclesian ;
Martyr. Chrysogonus's holy name is found
In th' ancient canon : nothing has remain'd
About him but that he on Roman ground 860

Was seized, and ta'en to Aquileia, there
His head to lose.

At Cordova in Spain
FLORA & MARY,
Virgin-Martyrs ;
861. Neath Saracenic rule a maiden fair
Lived, Flora hight, whose father did maintain

Mahometan delusions, but in truth 865
Of Christ her mother rear'd her : so, accused
By her own brother, who nor melting ruth
Nor blood-affection knew, severely used

Was she, by scourges mangled, and her skull
All bare was laid : at length, with Mary, who 870
Was sister of a martyr'd deacon, full
Of faith and love she reacht the guerdon due.

25.
CATHERINE,
V.M.
under
Maximin II. St. Catherine, tho' of royal blood, applied
Her mind to learning, and in it excelled.
When Maximin some sages by her side 875
Had placed, and Christian doctrines which she held

Bade them confute, the saint, to his surprise
And rage, converted them ; and in one flame
They all were burnt : more dire indignities
For her were ready ; for her tender frame 880

NOVEMBER. On four vast wheels in one machine array'd,
 And stuck with pointed spikes, was placed, that when
 The wheels were moved the body of the maid
 In pieces might be torn. The cruel men

Were frustrate, for an angel broke the cords, 885
 And thus to pieces fell the fierce machine ;
 And soon the virgin to her heav'nly Lord's
 Embraces went, nor more on earth was seen.

26.
 PETER,
 of Alexandria,
 Bishop
 and Martyr ;
 311.

Peter of Alexandria is call'd
 By great Eusebius " Doctor excellent 890
 Of Christian faith and morals," and extoll'd
 As " Bishops' chief and heav'nly ornament ;

Admired for virtue above common mark,
 For skill in science, and for knowledge deep
 Of holy Scriptures." Sixteenth from St. Mark 895
 He sat archbishop, nor did ever sleep

In ruling of the Church for twice six years.
 Thro' nine of these he persecutions sore
 Endured, and so by prayers and holy tears
 Was perfected his virtue ; for the more 900

The Church was scourged the more his piety
 And penance grew : " Die to your passions," said
 The holy man, " and thus prepare to die
 For your loved Lord." At length he lost his head

NOVEMBER. James "*Intercisus*," (from his bloody, slow, 905
 87. And tort'ring death so call'd,) his triumph gain'd
 JAMES, In suffering, in the world his snare and woe;—
Intercisus; and For when his prince hostility maintain'd
 MAHARSAPOH, Persian M.M.;
 491.

Against the Christian name, too much it proved
 For James's virtue to abandon all; 910
 Nor, till his wife and mother daily moved
 The clemency divine to stay his fall,

Was he reclaim'd : then, as if punishing
 His former fault, he let each quivering limb
 Piecemeal be lopt,—he meanwhile honouring 915
 The martyrs' Lord with words of prayer and hymn.

Another Persian martyr the same day
 We honour, who three years in loathsome pit
 Was prison'd, and at last with hunger lay
 Perishing there : his body found in light, 920

And kneeling, show'd his triumph.

Stephen, named
 28. The Younger, with a faith like that display'd
 STEPHEN THE YOUNGER, By the First Martyr, was by men defamed
 M.; Because the Iconoclastic flood was stay'd
 764.

By his firm hand ; for when Copronymus 925
 His council of three hundred had convoked,
 "How call you that a council, and on us
 Urge its decisions," said the saint provoked,

NOVEMBER. " Which neither by the Patriarch of great Rome,
 Nor him of Antioch, nor Jerusalem, 930
 Nor Alexandria, is approved ?" O'ercome
 The bishops own'd themselves, and that o'er them

In argument and learning Stephen bore
 The palm. The emp'ror, boasting in his strength,
 Bade him to death be scourged : the slaves, who tore 935
 His members, left the work undone : at length

The courtiers roused a mob, who dragged him thro'
 The city-streets, and one dasht out his brains.—
 Our holy catalogue concludes with two,
 Each Saturninus named ; to both pertains 940

29.
 SATURNINUS,
 Bishop of
 Toulouse,
 Martyr;
 257.
 Another Martyr
 of the same
 name;
 304.

The martyr's praise. Toulouse's bishop one,
 Whose feet to a wild bull were tied, and then
 Down hill the beast was driv'n in violent run,
 And broke the suff'rer's skull. Small among men

The other's fame : in martyrology 945
 Of Rome he's simply named as of the faith
 Confessor 'neath the axe in century
 The third at the beginning.—
 O that in the path

Of saints we walkt ; ourselves renouncing quite,
 Crucified to the world, of tenderness 950
 For others full, eager the gospel's light
 To infidels to give, and thus to bless

NOVEMBER. Mankind with truth,—or in its cause to die ?
 No miracles or keen austerities
 Such course can equal ; nor would nations lie 955
 Long in the shades of death if verities

Were thus maintained, *and the baptized were one.*
 Saviour divine, who pray'dst that this might be,
 And saidst the world would then believe ! be done
 Thy most benevolent will, nor spurn from Thee 960

This poor attempt the way of sanctity
 In rhymes to show.

Reader ! thy prayers I crave
 To Father, Spirit, and Him who died on Tree,
 My soul from everlasting death to save.

THE END.

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